THE

INDIAN STATES FORCES

ANNUAL

1941

THE INDIAN STATES FORCES ANNUAL

The Indian States Forces Annual is published yearly in April at the price of Re. 1 per copy (post/freight free) for members of the Indian States Forces and Rs. 2 per copy (post free) for non-members. Copies of this number of the Annual may be obtained from the Editor.

Articles for publication in the 1942 number should be submitted to Military Advisers so as to reach them by 1st September 1941. Contributions, which are required in duplicate, should be typed on one side of the paper only, leaving a half margin on the left-hand side of the page. Names and units of contributors should be given, and these will be published unless the writer desires to write under an assumed name, in which case a pseudonym should be given.

Photographs to illustrate articles—the negative, if available, with one contact print should be forwarded. The titles of pictures should not be written on the back of the print itself.

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Quarter page	Rs. 20
Half page	Rs. 30
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THE EDITOR,
"THE INDIAN STATES FORCES ANNUAL,"
HEADQUARTERS OF THE MILITARY ADVISER-IN-CHIEF,
INDIAN STATES FORCES,
SIMLA.

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SIMLA,
April, 1941.

FOREWORD

This is the second war-time annual. It has been found difficult to obtain many articles of a military nature. This is possibly due to the fact that over forty States Forces units are or were serving in British India. Some of these units have proceeded overseas and more will probably be going.

It is hoped that for the next issue the censor will allow the publication of articles from the various theatres of war. The practical experience of units and of individuals will add greatly to the interest of readers. It is hoped in consequence that all concerned will do their best to write up their experiences.

Thanks to the co-operation of the Rulers and to the assistance given by Army Headquarters, the States Forces this last year have made great strides in their training. Vacancies have been given at the Staff College, Senior Officers' School, Senior and Junior Tactical Schools, as well as a large number at Mhow. Furthermore, many Indian States Forces units have had the advantage of training in British India.

All these facilities have enhanced the value of the States Forces in particular and of the Defence Forces in general.

Great events are likely to take place in the near future and I am quite convinced that the States Forces will play their part and do all that is required of them.

H. G. Watkin Maj.-Gen.
M. A.-in-C. Indian States Forces.



H. E. THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

THE INDIAN STATES FORCES ANNUAL

No. 5 APRIL, 1941

NOTES

SINCE the last issue of this Annual, over a year ago, movements of I.S.F. troops have taken place on an unprecedented scale. The censor forbids us to give details, but suffice it to say that four regiments of cavalry, five batteries and one section of artillery, four companies and one section sappers and miners, twenty-three battalions of infantry, one camel corps unit and three companies of animal transport have left their States for service under the Crown. Further offers have yet to be utilised. States, both large and small, have vied with one another in their offers of help. The departure of these units has necessitated, in some cases, the raising of additional ones for purposes of internal security, while in almost every State training and maintenance establishments have had to be largely increased and reorganised. Expansion of the I.S.F. is therefore progressing at a considerable pace.

That these efforts are appreciated is apparent from the message which His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor sent to the Viceroy on March 14 last, and many in this country must have thrilled to the words:

> "The loyalty of the Indian Princes to their King-Emperor, on which I know that I can rely even more surely in the hour of trial, has never been more openly displayed. From the provinces of India and the Indian States has flowed a constant and invaluable stream of men, money and material to swell the rising flood of the Empire's war resources. Moreover while her fighting forces have been upholding in many widely scattered theatres of war the military traditions for which India is so justly famed, her people have been giving freely to relieve suffering and distress.
>
> "I thank the Princes and people of India from my heart for their noble response and for their kind sympathy. I know that the ideals for which we are fighting are as deeply cherished in India as throughout the British Commonwealth, and I am confident that

the magnificent support which India has so readily and unsparingly given to the common cause will be maintained until victory crowns our arms."

His Excellency the Viceroy, acknowledging the message, sent the following reply:

"The Viceroy, with his humble duty to Your Majesty, sends, on behalf of the Princes and people of India, his warmest thanks for Your Majesty's most gracious message. Nothing could be of greater encouragement to all of us here in the common task than Your Majesty's generous words and I am confident that I speak for the Princes and people of India in assuring Your Majesty that no effort shall be spared on our part which can conduce to the triumph of our cause and of the ideals for which we are fighting."

* * * *

Major-General Sir Arthur Mills, C.B., D.S.O., Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces, from 16th February, 1935 to 15th April, 1939, in his foreword to the first issue of this Annual stressed that the objects to be achieved in its publication were:

"(*a*) a medium for chronicling interesting events in the history of the States Forces during the past year, and

"(*b*) the better that we of the I.S.F. can get to know each other, and help each other to become more efficient, the greater will be the cordial co-operation between units when the time comes, as come it will, when we shall again be wanted in the defence of the Empire."

The time has indeed arrived, and it is therefore essential in the interests of both the I.S.F. and the greater army of which the I.S.F. is but a part, for as large a degree of uniformity in all matters affecting military efficiency and welfare of troops to be attained. This war is of such magnitude, introducing new and surprising elements of the product of science, that only by viewing the I.S.F. as a single entity, and not as a collection of individual units, can States most successfully help in the prosecution of the war. A few years ago no two States Forces were organised on similar lines—each had their own varying establishments and strengths. Fortunately, thanks to the co-operation of the Rulers themselves, this state of affairs has been remedied, and has already led to greater efficiency in tactics and administration. With so many troops of the I.S.F. serving alongside His Majesty's Forces, the nearer the efficiency of all ranks, conditions of service, and rates of pay approximate to those of the latter, the better.

Up-to-date, of all the I.S.F. units which have proceeded overseas, only the Jammu and Kashmir Battery has been in the firing line. It has not been found wanting. The turn of the remainder will come and, provided that prejudice and false sense of dignity are flung aside, and realities faced, the I.S.F. need not fear comparison with the rest of the Imperial forces.

Europe is now at the crossways. Asia is stirring. Even before these words are in print, much may have happened to alter still further the map of lands West of Suez. Whatever the future may have in store, there can but be one final result, if wholehearted mutual co-operation and trust are accepted as guiding principles: *Unitas vis est.*

*   *   *   *

It will not be out of place in this Annual to show the results of mutual co-operation to which reference has already been made. Rulers and States (apart from the units already mentioned which have been offered to the Crown) have given the following expressions of their loyalty:

(*a*) *Donations—*

		Rs.
Non-recurring	...	229,76,000.
Recurring	...	37,61,000.

(*b*) Eleven G. P. Transport Companies raised by eighteen States. (It is probable that the provision of reinforcements and the training of recruits for these companies also will be undertaken by the States concerned.)

(*c*) Three Ambulance units raised by three States.

(*d*) Two Labour Companies raised by two States.

(*e*) Transfer of signallers to the Indian Army, of whom 173 have been finally accepted.

(*f*) Assumption of responsibility for the protection of vital communications and strategic points within their territories.

(*g*) The manufacture of dummy rifles and the provision of clothing and equipment from their own resources for the training of reinforcements for active units.

*   *   *   *

I.S.F. Units, when employed under the Crown, draw all allowances which are ordinarily admissible to equivalent units of the Indian Army.

Concessions made available by Government, some of which are peculiar to the I.S.F., are [illegible] below:

STATE OFFICERS

Special Allowances—

		Rs.
Lieut.-Colonel	...	150 p.m.
Major	...	100 p.m.
Captain	...	70 p.m.
Lieutenant or 2nd-Lieutenant	...	65 p.m.

Separation Allowance—

Lieut.-Colonel	...	120 p.m.
Major	...	85 p.m. (5 years service as Major).
Major	...	80 p.m.
Captain	...	60 p.m. (15 years service).
Captain	...	50 p.m.
Lieutenant or 2nd-Lieutenant	...	40 p.m.

Field allowance at Rs. 30 p.m. or Rs. 2 per day provided the area in which serving is declared as "Field Allowance Area."

Mess Allowance—

		Rs.
Initial grant for officers' Mess	...	1,500
Monthly mess maintenance allowance.		

Rations—

Free rations on field service.

INDIAN OFFICERS, OTHER RANKS AND FOLLOWERS

Free rations.

Field batta and expatriation allowance when on active service.

Lines allowance to followers.

Difference of engineer pay to S. & M. units between Indian Army and State rates.

Unit allowances ordinarily admissible to Indian Army units.

Free medical and veterinary treatment.

Special allowances to a section of the Gwalior Mountain Battery.

Free accommodation.

Leave passage concessions.

Family and disability pensions in cases where rates do not compare favourably with those in the Indian Army.

GENERAL

Free issue of arms, on loan, for units expanded or raised.

Free issue of rifles No. 2 to Field Service and at cost price to General Service and State Service units for the duration of the war.

Free maintenance and upkeep of arms and equipment in British India.

Free equipment and clothing for reinforcements of I.S.F. units

Refund of customs duty on petrol, oil and lubricants expended during training, manœuvres or internal security duties, in vehicles which are within the sanctioned establishment of the I.S.F.

Free loan issue of instructional equipment to certain S. & M. units.

Free supply of mobilisation equipment (including veterinary, medical, tetanus toxoid and other sera).

Supply of reserve ammunition to States.

Free gift of 3,000 horses to States.

Mechanisation of two cavalry regiments of the I.S.F. at the expense of the Government of India.

Free rearmament of artillery units armed with 2.75″ gun by 3.7″ how. and free issue of 1937 pattern web equipment in lieu of pattern '08, to units in British India.

* * * *

Before the next issue of this Annual, it is hoped that over one hundred potential officers of the I.S.F. will have received a course of "pre-cadet training" at a School which is to be opened this year in the Residency area at Indore. The Government of India have approved of the grant of 2.54 lakhs initial and 1 lakh recurring for the formation of this school.

Experience has proved that the I.S.F. cadet at training schools in India has suffered on account of the following reasons:

(*a*) Poor knowledge of English.

(*b*) Inability quickly to develop powers of leadership.

(*c*) Lack of experience of service outside State territory, which has resulted in a somewhat narrow approach towards general problems.

It is in order to remove this disparity between I.S.F. and I.A. cadets that this school is being formed. Instruction will be confined to English, drill, P.T. and elementary military subjects. The course will be scheduled to last three months,

but advanced students will be given a shorter period of training. The school has almost the unanimous support of Rulers and should prove of great benefit to the I.S.F. Financial liabilities of States will be reduced to an absolute minimum and will only consist of making provision for the necessary articles of clothing, equipment (many of these will be of use to the S.O. in later life) and living expenses.

* * * *

As we go to press, the results of the Army Rifles Association Meeting for this year have been published. The Military Adviser-in-Chief takes this opportunity of congratulating those units which have been successful, and in particular the Kashmir State units.

HONORARY RANKS GRANTED DURING THE YEAR

Promoted to the Honorary Rank of Major in the Army



Honorary Major His Highness Saramad-i-Rajaha-i-Hindustan Raj Rajindar Sri Maharajadhiraja Sir Sawai Man Singh Bahadur, G.C.I.E., Maharaja of Jaipur.

PROMOTED TO THE HONORARY RANK OF MAJOR IN THE ARMY



Honorary Captain His Highness Alijah, Farzand-i-Dilpazir-i-Daulat-i- Inglishia, Mukhlis-ud-Daula, Nasir-ul-Mulk, Amir-ul-Umra, Nawab Sir Syed Muhammad Raza Ali Khan Bahadur, Mustaid Jung, K.C.S.I., LL.D., D.LITT., Nawab of Rampur.

Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire



His Highness Mukhtar-ul-Mulk, Azim-ul-Iqtidar, Rafi-ush-Shan, Wala Shikoh, Mohata-sham-i-Dauran, Umadat-ul-Umara, Maharajadhiraja, Hisam-us-Saltanat, Sir George JAYAJI RAO SCINDIA, ALIJAH Bahadur, Srinath, Mansur-i-Zaman, Fidwi-i-Hazrat-Malik-i-Mauzzam, Rafi-ud-Darja-i-Inglistan, Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire



His Highness Farzand-i-Khas-i-Daulat-i-Inglishia, Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh Gaekwar Sena Khas Khel Shamsher Bahadur, Maharaja of Baroda.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of India (G.C.S.I.)



Honorary Major His Highness Rukun-ud-Daula, Nusrat-i-Jang, Saif-ud-Daula, Hafiz-ul-Mulk, Mukhlis-ud-Daula, Wa Muin-ud-Daula, Nawab Al-Haj Sir SADIQ MOHAMMAD KHAN ABBASI Bahadur, V., G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., LL.D., Nawab of Bahawalpur.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Knight Commander of the Order of the Star of India (K.C.S.I.)



Honorary Lieutenant His Highness Farzand-i-Saadat-Nishan-i-Hazrat-i-Kaiser-i-Hind, Barar Bans, Raja Sir HAR INDAR SINGH Bahadur, Raja of Faridkot.

HONOURS AND AWARDS
Admitted to the Order of British India

I Class



(1) LIEUT.-COLONEL SHIV NATH MISRA BAHADUR, O.B.I.,
Gwalior Maharaj Bahadur Battalion

(2) LIEUT.-COLONEL SANSAR CHAND BAHADUR, O.B.I., I.D.S.M.,
Alwar Jey Paltan



(3) Major Sadanand Rao Rangnekar Bahadur, O.B.I. (Deceased).

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Admitted to the Order of British India

II Class



(1) LIEUT.-COLONEL BALWANT SINGH, JIND INFANTRY

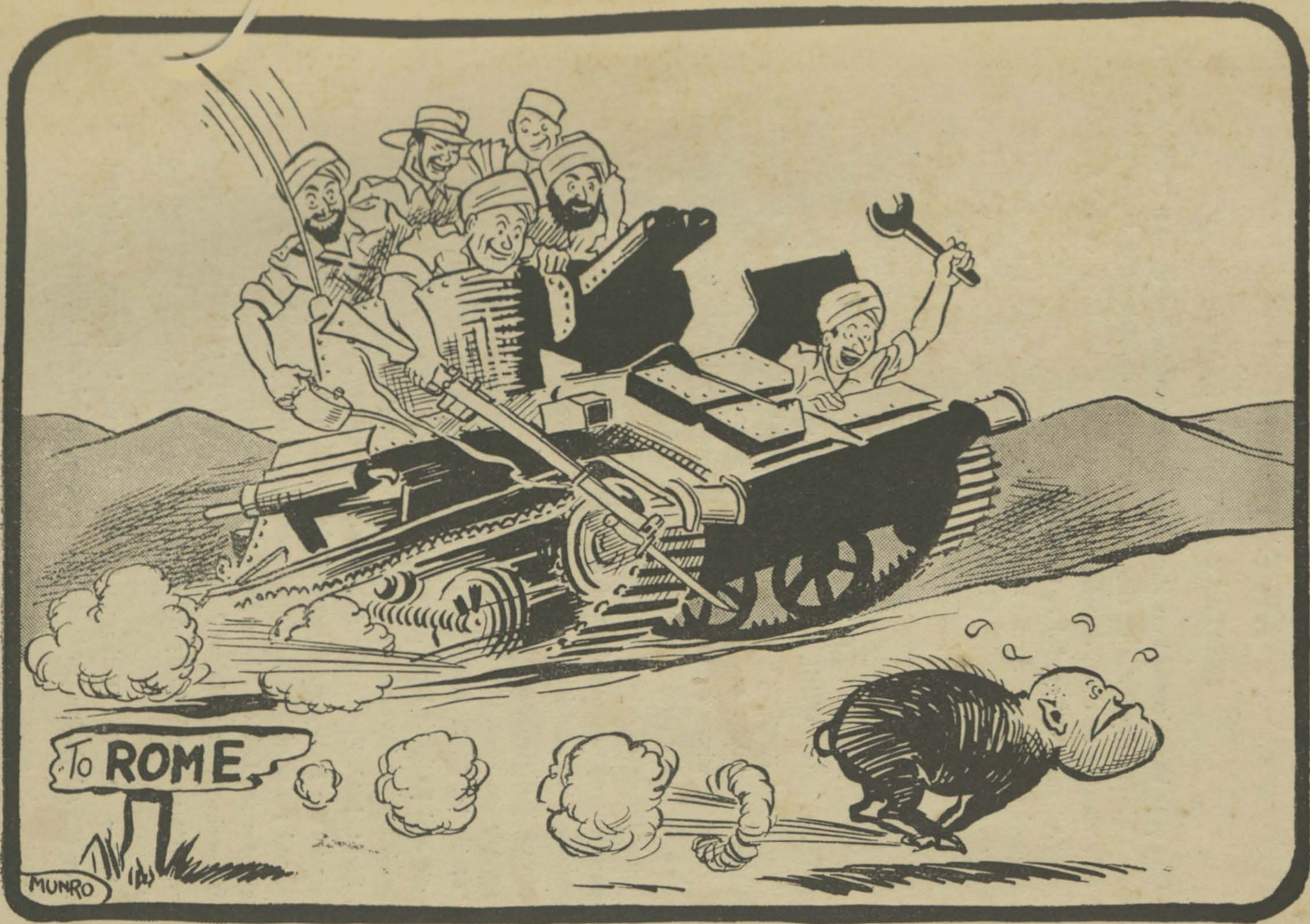


(2) LIEUT.-COLONEL JODH SINGH, BIKANER SADUL LIGHT INFANTRY



(3) COLONEL DALIP SINGH, 2ND PATIALA LANCERS

(4) Lieut.-Colonel Ali Akbar Khan, Commandant, 4th Jammu and Kashmir Infantry



THE KADIR CUP 1941 (FIRST HEAT)

APPOINTMENTS

MILITARY ADVISORY STAFF

Last year has witnessed an almost complete turnover of the Military Advisory Staff. The Headquarters of the Military Adviser-in-Chief has been reorganised and now consists of three officers, a Staff Officer graded as G.S.O.I. and Staff Officers "A" and "Q" graded as G.S.O.II.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. B. Barltrop, O.B.E., M.C., vacated his appointment as Staff Officer to the Military Adviser-in-Chief in September, 1940. Only those who have had to apply the principles underlying the I.S.F. Scheme can appreciate the immense amount of work Colonels Hancock and Barltrop (amongst others) have done for the I.S.F. Only those who are daily confronted with problems affecting the welfare of the I.S.F. are able fully to appreciate the great advantages accruing to States which have joined the 1939 Scheme. Lieutenant-Colonel Barltrop spent nearly 4½ years as Staff Officer to the Military Adviser-in-Chief. He gained in full measure the confidence and affection of the two General Officers under whom he worked. He helped very largely to carry out proposals which have had a marked effect on the efficiency and welfare of the States Forces. He takes the good wishes of every one connected with the I.S.F. to his new appointment of Commandant of a Regimental Training Centre, Gurkha Rifles.

Major (Acting Lieut.-Colonel) H. E. Cubitt-Smith, 12th F. F. Regiment, was appointed Staff Officer (A) to the Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces, on 1st August, 1940, and Staff Officer on 1st November, 1940.

Major H. G. P. Williams, 17th Dogra Regiment, Special Service Officer, 2nd Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, was appointed Staff Officer (A) to the Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces, on 1st November, 1940.

Lieut. J. O. F. Maurice, "C" List, Indian Army, was appointed Assistant Staff Officer to the Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces, on 2nd October, 1940, and relinquished his appointment on 14th February, 1941, on transfer as Special Service Officer, Alwar Jey Paltan.

Captain (Acting Major) A. J. W. Smart, 13th F. F. Rifles, was appointed Staff Officer (Q) to the Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces, on 9th March, 1941.

Major P. R. Tatham, Indian Armoured Corps, Assistant Military Adviser (Cavalry), Punjab States Forces, was appointed Military Adviser of that

Circle on 22nd September, 1940, relinquishing this appointment on 1st October, 1940.

Major (Local Lieut.-Colonel) T. M. Ker, 11th Sikh Regiment, was appointed Assistant Military Adviser (Cavalry), Punjab States Forces, on 22nd September, 1940, and was appointed Military Adviser of that Circle on 1st October, 1940.

Major G. Uloth, I.R.R.O., was appointed Assistant Military Adviser (Cavalry), Punjab States Forces, on 1st October, 1940.

Major K. F. W. Thomas, 19th Hyderabad Regiment, was appointed Military Adviser (Infantry), Punjab States Forces, on 16th August, 1940.

Major (Local Lieut.-Colonel) N. J. G. Jones, 16th Punjab Regiment, Assistant Military Adviser (Infantry), Punjab States Forces, was transferred as Assistant Military Adviser, Central India States Forces, on 16th August, 1940, and was appointed Military Adviser of that Circle on 16th September, 1940.

Captain (now Major) S. G. D. Jones, 2nd Punjab Regiment, was appointed Assistant Military Adviser, Central India States Forces, on 23rd January, 1941.

Lieut.-Colonel K. C. S. Erskine, M.C., Indian Army (Retired) was appointed Military Adviser, Rajputana States Forces, on 10th August, 1940.

Captain R. J. Benwell, Indian Armoured Corps, was appointed Assistant Military Adviser, Rajputana States Forces, on 1st April, 1940.

Major (Local Lieut.-Colonel) L. T. Firbank, Indian Armoured Corps, was appointed Military Adviser, Combined Kathiawar-Gujarat Circle, Indian States Forces, on 10th July, 1940.

Major (Local Lieut.-Colonel) B. G. Dalrymple-Hay, Indian Armoured Corps, was appointed Military Adviser, Southern India Circle, Indian States Forces, on 8th September, 1940.

Captain (Local Major) I. St. Q. Severin, Royal Signals, was appointed Military Adviser for Signalling, Indian States Forces, on 11th March, 1940.

Captain (Local Major) R. L. Todd, R.E., was appointed Military Adviser, Sappers and Miners, Indian States Forces, on 8th July, 1940.

INDIAN STATES

Brigadier H. R. C. Lane, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., I.A. (Retd.), appointed Chief of the Military Staff, Baroda State Forces, from 10th July, 1940.

The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel Sir Hissam-ud-din, Sirdar Wazirzada, Sirdar Bahadur, C.I.E., O.B.I., I.D.S.M., M.C.S., I.A. (Retd.), appointed Chief of the Staff, Bhopal State Forces, from 25th May, 1940.

Captain Amar Singh, I.D.S.M., I.A. (Retd.), appointed Commandant, Faridkot State Service Company, from 6th July, 1940.

Lieut.-Colonel H. M. K. Gracey, I.A., appointed Commander-in-Chief, Holkar State Forces, from 15th September, 1940.

Lieut.-Colonel C. O. B. Daunt, M.C., I.A. (Retd.), appointed Commandant, Mewar State Forces, from 15th August, 1940.

Captain V. R. Khanolkar, 11th Sikh Regiment, appointed Unit Commander, Travancore State Forces, from 3rd December, 1940.

Captain Daulat Singh, 3rd Cavalry, appointed 2nd-in-Command, Kachhawha Horse (Jaipur), from 22nd February, 1941.

SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICERS

The following were serving as Special Service Officers on 15th March, 1941:

Lieut.-Colonel E. E. Watson, O.B.E., Indian Army	Jammu and Kashmir.
Captain (T./Major) W. H. Niall, 8th Punjab Regiment	Jammu and Kashmir.
Lieutenant (T./Captain) R. H. M. du. P. Moore, 8th Punjab Regiment	Jammu and Kashmir.
Captain (A./Major) E. C. W. Fowler, 11th Sikh Regiment	Patiala.
Lieutenant (A./Captain) F. B. Suter, 11th Sikh Regiment	Patiala.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) E. Curnow, 2nd Punjab Regiment	Gwalior.
Major E. N. Jameson, 1st K. G. V's Gurkha Rifles	Gwalior.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) S. F. Martin, 15th Punjab Regiment	Rampur.
Lieutenant (T./Major) P. G. Cane, 9th Gurkha Rifles	Rampur.
2nd Lieutenant (A./Captain) C. F. Markham Lee, 6th Rajputana Rifles	Rampur.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) J. W. H. Benson, M.C., 4th Bombay Grenadiers	Jaipur.
Major E. H. P. Mallinson, S. U. L., 17th Dogra Regiment	Jaipur.

Lieutenant (T./Captain) H. H. Kinghorn, 4th Bombay Grenadiers	Jaipur.
Lieut.-Colonel E. G. Savage, Indian Army ...	Alwar.
2nd Lieutenant (A./Major) J. O. F. Maurice, E. C. O.	Alwar.
2nd Lieutenant (A./Captain) R. Brown, E. C. O., 1st Punjab Regiment	Alwar.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) N. M. MacLeod, 1st K. G. V's Gurkha Rifles	Nabha.
Captain (T./Major) P. J. Hennessy, 10th Baluch Regiment	Nabha.
Major G. S. Jarman, S. U. L., 6th Rajputana Rifles	Jind.
Major J. C. S. Hadaway, 14th Punjab Regiment	Kapurthala.
Major (A./Lieut.-Colonel) J. H. Rigg, 8th Punjab Regiment	Indore.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) H. B. Rogers, 5th M. L. Infantry	Hyderabad.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) K. H. Preston, 11th Sikh Regiment	Mysore.
Lieutenant (A./Major) P. I. Burrows, 12th F. F. Regiment	Mysore.
Captain G. F. M. H. Brameld, E. C. O. ...	Mysore.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) A. G. Adams, S. U. L., 19th Hyderabad Regiment	Travancore.
2nd/Lieutenant (T./Major) H. M. Longhurst, 8th Gurkha Rifles	Travancore.
Lieut.-Colonel R. C. Fletcher, C.I.E., Indian Army	Bahawalpur.
Captain (A./Major) P. L. K. Thompson, 11th Sikh Regiment	Bahawalpur.
2nd/Lieutenant (A./Captain) A. M. W. B. MacDermott, 12th F. F. Regiment ...	Bahawalpur.
Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Palin, M.C., Indian Army	Jaipur.
Lieutenant (T./Major) D. D. M. McCready, 10th Gurkha Rifles	Jaipur.

Captain (A./Major) J. H. Prendergast, M.C., 15th Punjab Regiment	Patiala.
Lieutenant (A./Captain) D. O. T. Dykes, 11th Sikh Regiment	Patiala.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) E. A. Evanson, 17th Dogra Regiment	Mewar.
Lieutenant (A./Major) N. St. J. Becher, 9th Jat Regiment	Mewar.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) T. G. L. 'E. Grant, 2nd Punjab Regiment	Jodhpur.
Captain (A./Major) L. H. W. Axtell, A.I.R.O., 18th R. G. Rifles	Jodhpur.
Lieut.-Colonel H. A. Andrews, M.C., Indian Army	Jammu and Kashmir.
Captain (T./Major) E. de G. H. Bromhead, 12th F. F. Regiment	Jammu and Kashmir.
Lieutenant (T./Captain) J. T. Benn, 4th Bombay Grenadiers	Jammu and Kashmir.
Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Bell-Syer, Indian Army ...	Bikaner.
Captain (T./Major) R. F. Page, 19th Hyderabad Regiment	Bikaner.
2nd/Lieutenant (A./Captain) D. B. Whyte, E. C. O.	Bikaner.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) H. G. Morris, 13th F. F. Rifles	Bhopal.
Captain (T./Major) C. D. F. A. Farquharson, 18th Royal Gurkha Rifles	Bhopal.
2nd/Lieutenant (T./Captain) W. M. Mair, 2nd Punjab Regiment	Bhopal.
Lieut.-Colonel R. H. Thompson, Indian Army	Baroda.
Lieutenant (A./Major) D. J. H. Roche, 9th Jat Regiment	Baroda.
Major C. A. Hendrick, 17th Dogra Regiment	Hyderabad.
2nd/Lieutenant (A./Captain) C. D. Lamb, E. C. O., 8th Punjab Regiment	Hyderabad.
2nd/Lieutenant (A./Captain) E. J. Ellis, E. C. O., 14th Punjab Regiment	Hyderabad.

Lieutenant (T./Major) R. S. Corbett, Royal Artillery	Jammu and Kashmir.
Lieutenant (T./Captain) J. A. Oliver, Royal Artillery	Jammu and Kashmir.
Major J. W. Kaye, Royal Artillery	Gwalior.
Lieutenant (T./Major) D. Maccoll, Royal Artillery	Gwalior.
Captain (T./Major) R. E. T. Keelan, Royal Artillery	Jammu and Kashmir.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) G. F. Jones, O.B.E., Indian Armoured Corps	Hyderabad.
Major G. E. Portal, I. Ad. Corps ...	Hyderabad.
Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Branfoot, Indian Army ...	Gwalior.
Major J. M. Wallington, S. U. L., Indian Armoured Corps	Gwalior.
2nd/Lieutenant (A./Captain) C. E. W. Price, Indian Armoured Corps	Gwalior.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) G. G. Collyns, Indian Armoured Corps	Jodhpur.
Captain (A./Major) W. H. L. Spurgin, S. U. L., Indian Armoured Corps	Jodhpur.
Captain G. D. G. Garforth-Bles, Indian Armoured Corps	Jodhpur.
Lieut.-Colonel W. A. Broadfoot, Indian Army	Patiala.
Major (A./Lieut.-Colonel) P. J. Hilliard, S. U. L., Indian Armoured Corps	Patiala.
Major (T./Lieut.-Colonel) G. W. Bomford, Indian Armoured Corps	Bikaner.
Lieutenant (T./Major) W. P. Cranston, Indian Armoured Corps	Bikaner.
Lieutenant (T./Captain) A. F. C. Robertson-Glasgow, Indian Armoured Corps ...	Bikaner.
Captain (T./Major) R. C. Orgill, Royal Engineers	Malerkotla.
Lieutenant (A./Major) P. A. Adams, Royal Engineers	Faridkot.

Lieutenant (T./Major) J. W. G. Whyte, Royal Engineers ... ... Tehri-Garhwal.

Major C. A. G. Rundle, M.C., S. U. L., 16th Punjab Regiment ... ... Sirmoor.

2nd/Lieutenant (T./Captain) W. J. Masterton, Royal Engineers ... ... Sirmoor.

2nd/Lieutenant (T./Major) T. Whysall, E. C. O. ... ... Mandi.

Captain (Local Major) R. F. Gruar, I.C.T.C. Gwalior.

Major D. W. MacL.Prinsep, S. U. L., Indian Armoured Corps ... ... Jaipur.

Captain (Local Major) P. F. Pritchard, M.C., R.I.A.S.C. ... ... Indore/Rewa.

COURSES AND SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION

Below is a list of vacancies which have been allotted for the coming year. These are liable to alteration, and we hope an increase:

1. *Indian Military Academy*—

   Number of vacancies allotted ... 30 — 15 at the August Term. 15 at the January Term.

2. *Officers' Training Schools*—

   Number of vacancies allotted ... 200 per annum.

3. *Kitchener College*—

   Number of vacancies allotted ... 4 — 2 at the July Term. 2 at the December Term.

4. *K.G.R.I.M. Schools*—

   Number of vacancies allotted ... 2 at each of the Schools for Hindu boys, subject to an eventual total of 10 at each of these Schools at any one time. 1 at the School for Mohammedan boys, subject to an eventual total of 5 at any one time.

5. *Tactical School*—

   Senior Wing 2

   Junior Wing 4

6. *Staff College*—

   Number of vacancies allotted, July 1941 Term ... ... 2 (No definite allotment.)

7. *A College of Engineering and Technology*—

   Number of vacancies allotted, January 1941 Course ... 2 (No definite allotment.)

8. *Engineer Officer Cadet Training Unit Courses*—

   Number of vacancies allotted ... Maximum of 12 per annum.

9. *Chemical Warfare School*—

   State Officers 5

   Indian Officers and N.C.O.s ... 53

10. *Army School of Education—*

Indian Officers or N.C.O.s ... 14

11. *Army Signal School—*

State Officers 4

N.C.O.s 4

12. *Army School of Physical Training—*

State Officers 5

N.C.O.s 52

13. *School of Artillery—*

State Officers 4

N.C.O.s 4

14. *Courses at a Clothing Factory—*

Tailor's course 4

Classes of instruction in fitting clothing 6

15. *Army Veterinary School—*

State Officers 2

Indian officers 3

I.O.R.s 3

16. *Web Equipment Courses at Arsenals—*

Ordnance Dépôt, Lahore ... 5

Kirkee Arsenal, Kirkee ... 3

17. *Farriers Course at a Veterinary College—*

Number of vacancies allotted during 1940-41 ... ... 15 } (No definite allotment.)

18. *Training of Medical Personnel at Indian Military Hospitals—*

Number of vacancies allotted during 1940-41 ... ... 10 } (No definite allotment.)

19. *Field Engineering (All Arms) Courses*
20. *Fighting Vehicles School*
21. *Armourers Courses at Arsenals*
22. *Small Arms School*

} (Not yet allotted.)

STAFF COLLEGE,

The following State Officers have been selected for war courses in 1941:

Captain Dina Nath, Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.

Captain H. Bayley, Hyderabad Infantry Training Company.

Captain R. G. Langan, "A" Battery Nizam's Horse Artillery.

Major Narain Singh, Jammu and Kashmir Army Training School.

INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY

Gentlemen cadets who passed out of the Academy in 1940:

March-April, 1940:

G. C. Mirza Himayet Beg	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Mustafa Kazi	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. K. R. Coorlawala	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Mirza Nizamuddin Khan	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Mirza Afsur Ali Beg	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. M. D. Luschwitz	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Paul Shah Khan	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Shiva Dayal Singh	...	...	Jaipur.
G. C. Zorawar Singh	...	...	Jaipur.
G. C. Samundar Singh	...	...	Alwar.
G. C. Mohd. Idris Khan	...	...	Alwar.
G. C. D. S. C. Singh Gaekwar	...	...	Baroda.
G. C. Mahbub Singh	...	...	Faridkot.
G. C. Chain Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Hassan Shah	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Syed Mohd. Shah	...	...	Rampur.
G. C. Kanwar Kishan Singh	...	...	Kotah.

December, 1940:

G. C. Ghasi Ram	...	...	Alwar.
G. C. Mohd. Afzal Khan	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Ghaus Mohd. Khan	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Sunit Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. G. A. Qureshi	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. M. A. Hussain	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. A. N. S. Chamarette	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Bahal Singh	...	...	Patiala.
G. C. Gurjit Singh	...	...	Patiala.

Gentlemen cadets who passed out of the Academy in 1940—Concld.

G. C. Mohd. Said-ud-Din Khan	...	...	Rampur.
G. C. Maghar Singh	...	...	Kapurthala.
G. C. A. T. Sethu Narayana	...	...	Mysore.
G. C. H. N. Fazl-ur-Rahman Khan	...	...	Mysore.
G. C. S. Krishna Singh	...	...	Mysore.

Gentlemen cadets who passed into the Academy in 1940 and 1941:

August, 1940:

G. C. Shivdev Singh	...	...	Patiala.
G. C. Balbir Singh	...	...	Patiala.
G. C. Krishan Kumar	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Harnam Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Kailash Singh	...	...	Gwalior.
G. C. Ram Singh	...	...	Mewar.
G. C. Bilal Ahmad Jeddy	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Syed Rahmatullah Shah	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Shrimant Khanderao Gaekwar	...	...	Baroda.

January, 1941:

G. C. Dewan Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Ram Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Harbans Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Mahel Singh	...	...	Kashmir.
G. C. Jagjit Singh	...	...	Patiala.
G. C. Umaid Singh	...	...	Jodhpur.
G. C. M. V. Phatak	...	...	Gwalior.
G. C. R. B. Patil	...	...	Gwalior.
G. C. N. Rangarajan	...	...	Mysore.
G. C. M. B. Deviah	...	...	Mysore.
G. C. R. A. Mehta	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. H. H. El-Edroos	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. Mohd. Asim Mirza	...	...	Hyderabad.
G. C. S. Jarnail Singh	...	...	Faridkot.
G. C. S. Indar Singh	...	...	Faridkot.

Indian States Forces students who obtained distinguished certificates during the year:

SCHOOL OF ARTILLERY

Lieutenant Sultan Singh, Bikaner Bijey Battery.

ARMY SIGNAL SCHOOL

Captain Dilbagh Rai, Jammu and Kashmir Rifles. (*Special.*)

No. 544 L./Naik Bhikham Singh, Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.

No. 4344 L./Naik Beli Ram, Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.

No. 855 L./Naik Karam Singh, Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.

No. 2183 L./Naik Fazal-i-Naim Khan, Patiala Yadavindra Infantry.

No. 1068 Naik Kasal Singh, Bhavnagar State Infantry.

No. 1679 Naik Krishna Ram, Jodhpur Sardar Infantry.

No. 1387 L./Naik Salim Ahmed, Jaipur Infantry.

ARMY RIFLE ASSOCIATION

NON-CENTRAL MATCHES,

1939-40

Indian States Forces Units gained the following successes:

Order of Merit	*Individual, Unit or Sub-Unit*	*Prize*
	THE HAVELOCK CUP (APERTURE SIGHT)	
2nd	L./Naik Hoshiar Singh, Kashmir Rifles.	Medium bronze medal.
	THE JODHPUR CUP	
1st	Jodhpur Sardar Infantry.	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Jammu and Kashmir Rifles.	Large bronze medal.
3rd	Faridkot Sappers and Miners	...
	THE MILITARY ADVISER'S CUP	
1st	Jammu and Kashmir Rifles.	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Jodhpur Sardar Infantry.	Large bronze medal.
3rd	Jammu and Kashmir Rifles.	...
	THE SCINDIA CUP	
1st	Patiala Infantry.	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Patiala Infantry.	Large bronze medal.
3rd	Faridkot Sappers and Miners.	...
	THE PRINCE OF WALES' CUP	
1st	Patiala Infantry.	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Patiala Infantry.	Large bronze medal.
3rd	Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.	...
	THE O'MOORE-CREAGH CUP	
1st	Patiala Lancers	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Patiala Lancers	Large bronze medal.
3rd	Patiala Lancers	...

1940-41

	THE HAVELOCK CUP (APERTURE SIGHT)	
1st	L./Naik Salah Mohammad, Kashmir Rifles	Cup and medium silver medal.

Order of Merit	*Individual, Unit or Sub-Unit*	*Prize*
	The Jodhpur Cup	
1st	Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.	...
3rd	Kashmir Rifles.	...
	The Military Adviser's Cup	
1st	Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.	...
3rd	Kashmir Rifles.	...
	The Scindia Cup	
1st	Kashmir Rifles	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Mysore Lancers.	Large bronze medal.
3rd	Kashmir Rifles.	...
	The Prince of Wales' Cup	
1st	Kashmir Rifles	Cup and large silver medal.
2nd	Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.	...
3rd	Jammu and Kashmir Infantry.	...
	The O'Moore-Creagh Cup	
1st	Mysore Lancers	Cup.
2nd	Mysore Lancers	...
3rd	Mysore Lancers	...

MUSINGS—MIXED AND AT RANDOM

For the third time within a week we were recently reminded that the British fight and lose many battles but win the last.

The reason is not far to seek. We forget the reasons why we go to war. The fact that we had blundered through the last was of minor importance. We had won. We disarmed, and showed the world how we believed that "might" ruled no more!

As years passed we were warned by independent leaders that human nature had not changed, and that it was time we bestirred ourselves from the realm of Utopian ideals. We heeded *not*. As a result we are once more forced to fight by a man in whose hands a despairing nation had placed absolute power. We were found unprepared.

Be it also remembered that the German leader occupies a position held but by a few (e.g., Cæsar and Napoleon). He is able to dispose absolutely of the whole army and the State, and is thus able to determine where and with what forces the final issue of the war is to be decided. This being so, it is all the more incumbent on us to adopt our mode of life to enable our commanders and leaders to compete on equal terms with the enemy.

Past recriminations are out of place. There can be but *one* object—to win the war. To this end, secondary considerations, whether political, financial or social, must all be subordinated.

Marlborough, faced with the difficulties which invariably beset a British C.-in-C., conquered all by his unflinching determination, energy, tact and wisdom. To-day, another of his line guides the destinies of the British people. Under his leadership the latter have willingly surrendered their most cherished ideals of liberty towards one aim—the destruction of Nazism. The people of Britain are not to-day afraid of world public opinion. "Finance" is now a comely and ready handmaiden, with the result that decisions are made without undue loss of time, and responsibility is delegated to the proper level.

If it be an accepted fact that the defeat of Britain entails the suspension of democratic ideals throughout the world, and especially in countries associated with or under the control of the British Crown—can it be asserted that we in India are applying correct principles to the achievement of the common object?

Do we retain our sense of proportion?

Have we learnt the lessons to be deduced from the activities of "Quislings" and "fifth columnists" in the recent battles of Europe?

Have we cast all prejudices aside?

Do we approach all problems with an open mind?

Prejudice is so often the result of preconceived ideas based on ignorance, misunderstanding and lack of confidence. How many peace-time shibboleths stand the strain and stress of war?

Have we appreciated the fact that owing to our numerically inferior forces we must play for time and, therefore, not hesitate to *over*-estimate future requirements of men and materials, rather than adopt an attitude of making provision only for that which may be considered necessary at the time. Insurance is a good policy.

Is the conduct of the war in the proper hands or are the soldiers still subject to undue financial or other control? It is of no avail to save lakhs or crores if, in the end, a decisive victory is not obtained.

Do we remember that "morale" is still a mighty force and that contentment is conducive to efficiency—cost what it may?

Do we take sufficient trouble to study human nature—to study the thoughts and feelings of our own officers and soldiers? Are we not apt to dispose of their diffident claims in a manner liable to misunderstanding, because of our stress on the interests of the State overriding that of the individual?

Do we appreciate that it is the silent and comparatively junior leaders on whom the State will depend in any really grave emergency? We always rely on their tenacity, loyalty and devotion to duty to retrieve a desperate situation, but how much happier for them if this trust is inspired and not taken for granted!

Without due decentralisation and calculated confidence, time is invariably lost, as decisions are delayed. Let a few mistakes occur. It is better to run risks rather than lose time which cannot be regained. The Prime Minister, some months ago, urged us all to do away with our conservative ideas of the past, including almost blind adherence to rules and regulations, and old-fashioned methods of correspondence and address. To what extent have we heeded his words?

Do we continually remember that this war is a life-and-death struggle?

It was F. M. Wolseley who stated: "Read a little but think a great deal," and it was a German historian who declared that "only a man, who is constantly occupied with great thoughts, will be able to form a great resolve when a decisive moment appears."

* * * *

I was going to attempt to answer my own questions but perhaps I should be better employed in further meditation!

The words of famous men will help. Let those ponder, who will:

1. "Our greatest glory is not never falling, but in rising every time we fall."—GOLDSMITH.

2\. (*a*) "Our duty as a government is simple. In our Generals and the great armies under their command we have a splendid instrument of peace which has been forged largely upon the hard anvil of war. It is their province in the field of military operations to conceive and execute the strategic intentions of the Allies; it is ours as a government to see that nothing the armies may need shall be lacking."—"DIRECTION OF WAR," *by Major-General W. R. Bird, quoting speech by French Premier in* 1917.

(*b*) "We must place ourselves in a position to give our men actually facing the enemy in the field the greatest possible assistance and support of which we are capable, in the form of trained reinforcements and supplies."—C.-in-C.'s BROADCAST, 1941.

3\. "It is the soldier's duty to *decide* what is necessary for the prosecution of the war."—ANON.

"I should have done no good if I had to take anybody else's views into consideration."—C. N. TO THE DIRECTORY.

4\. "The great art of government is not to let men grow old."— C. N. TO CARNOT; *Verona, August* 9, 1796.

5\. "I may be accused of rashness—but never of slackness. "Space we can recover but lost time never."—NAPOLEON.

6\. "How can I co-ordinate without control?"—ANON.

7\. (*a*) "Beware of over-centralisation for the subordinate cannot suddenly become a Chief endued with the faculty of decision. Personality and initiative are liable to be suppressed."—FOCH.

(*b*) "It is the subordinate officers who gain victories or enable them to be gained."—NAPOLEON.

8\. (*a*) "Obedience must be exacted, and yet, insubordination may be only the evidence of a strong mind."—C. N. TO JOSEPH (*Finkenstein, May* 5, 1807)

but

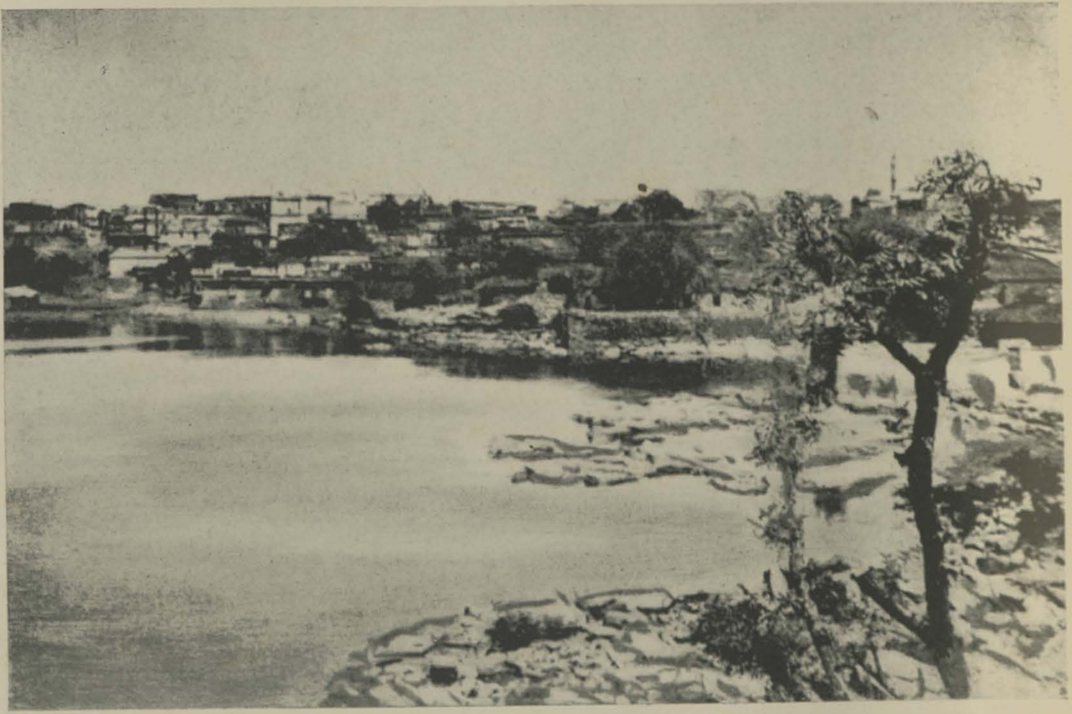
(*b*) "No event ought ever to prevent a soldier from obeying."—NAPOLEON.

9\. (*a*) "The man who cannot wonder is but a Pair of Spectacles behind which there is no Eye."—CARLYLE.

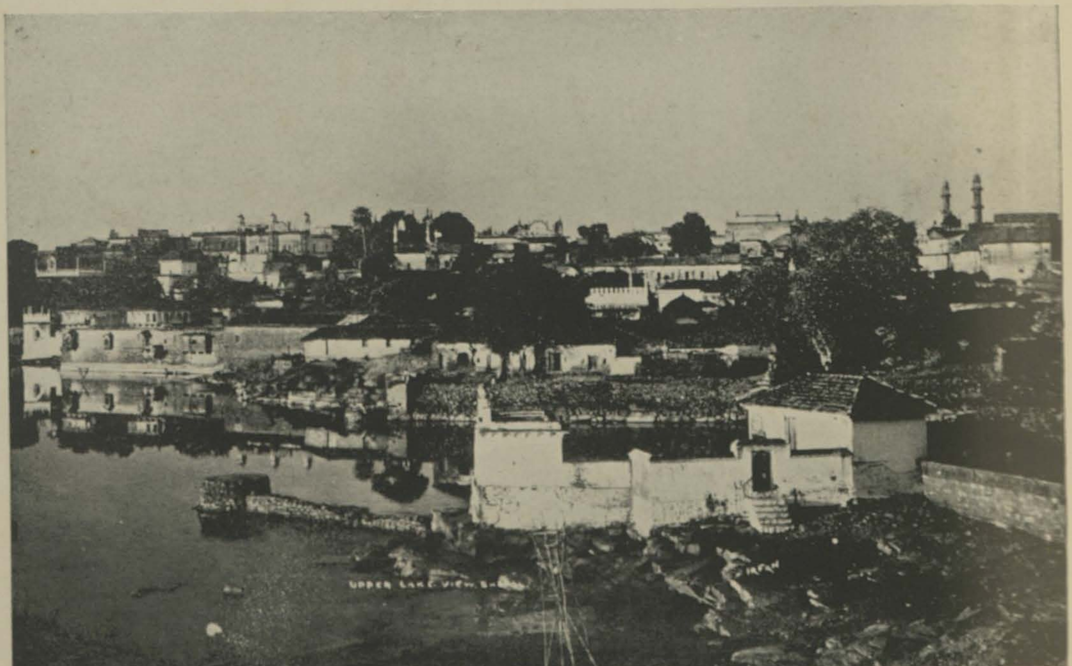
(*b*) "Imagination is the telescope of the mind."—FULLER.

10\. "Human nature is still the deciding factor in the art of war."—ANON.

11\. "Of all faults, *one* only is *degrading*, namely, *inaction*."—FOCH.



GENERAL VIEW OF BHOPAL TOWN



BHOPAL TOWN FROM THE UPPER LAKE

BHOPAL

From Notes by the Director of Archaeology, Bhopal.

FEW states in Central India combine in such measure as Bhopal, or to the same extent, the richness of antiquarian interest with the monuments of a succession of ruling powers and dynasties, extending to a later past which still lives in the present. From the golden era of Buddhist civilization to the settlement of Central India by the East India Company in the early years of the 19th century, from Asoka the Great to Dost Mahomed Khan, the scion of the Mirzai Khels of Tirah on the North-Western Frontier of India, who laid down the foundation of the State of Bhopal, a succession of rulers swept over this region, leaving behind the traces of their construction, but oftener, the ravages of their ruthless destruction. Every milestone in this march of peoples, of conquests, of settlements and of colossal displacements of populations, is marked by monuments which still stand, reminiscent of sites and peoples now no more.

The modern history of the State begins with the foundation of the City of Bhopal, the Capital town of the State, which occupies a site on the fringe of the famous lake of Bhopal, a picturesque sheet of limpid waters, enclosed by the walls of Fatehgarh—the fortress of victory—built by Dost Mahomed Khan in the 18th century of the Christian era.

During its historic past, embracing a period which enclosed a century-and-a-half of constant wars and of preparedness for war, the charm of its romance consisted in valiant deeds and military exploits shared by men and women in a critical struggle for existence. It witnessed the onslaughts of the marauding hordes of the Pindarees. It witnessed the siege of the Maharatta leagues, determined to clear the country of this alien power in their neighbourhood. They came like an avalanche, sweeping everything in their march, plundering and destroying, claiming *chauth* from their opponents, their daggers cutting their names deep in the annals of India. But Fatehgarh alone, never capitulated to the foe: true to its name, it has always remained a fortress of victory.

Throughout its history, this town and the territories of which it forms the heart and centre, have been noted for their military and strategic importance. They lie on routes which have been from time immemorial, important points of offensive and defensive warfare, and are the highways of commerce and civilization.

From the summit of the Fort, the city can be seen extending for miles on each side—an expanse of green interspersed with structures of all sizes mingling in an impressive scene of beauty. In the Fort itself which encloses the older town, the landscape is dominated by the Golden minarets of the Juma Mosque, while on

the southern side of the Lake rises up a pile of simple white palaces, the residence of a series of Bhopal Rulers who directed, in a critical period of its history, the affairs of the State. Thence spread out to the east and north extensive suburbs built by a succession of rulers—each containing a number of structures like the vast Taj Mahal Palace, the Moti Masjid, the Pearl Mosque, and the Taj-al-Masajid—a gigantic structure remarkable for its delicate work in red sandstone, brilliantly conceived and boldly executed.

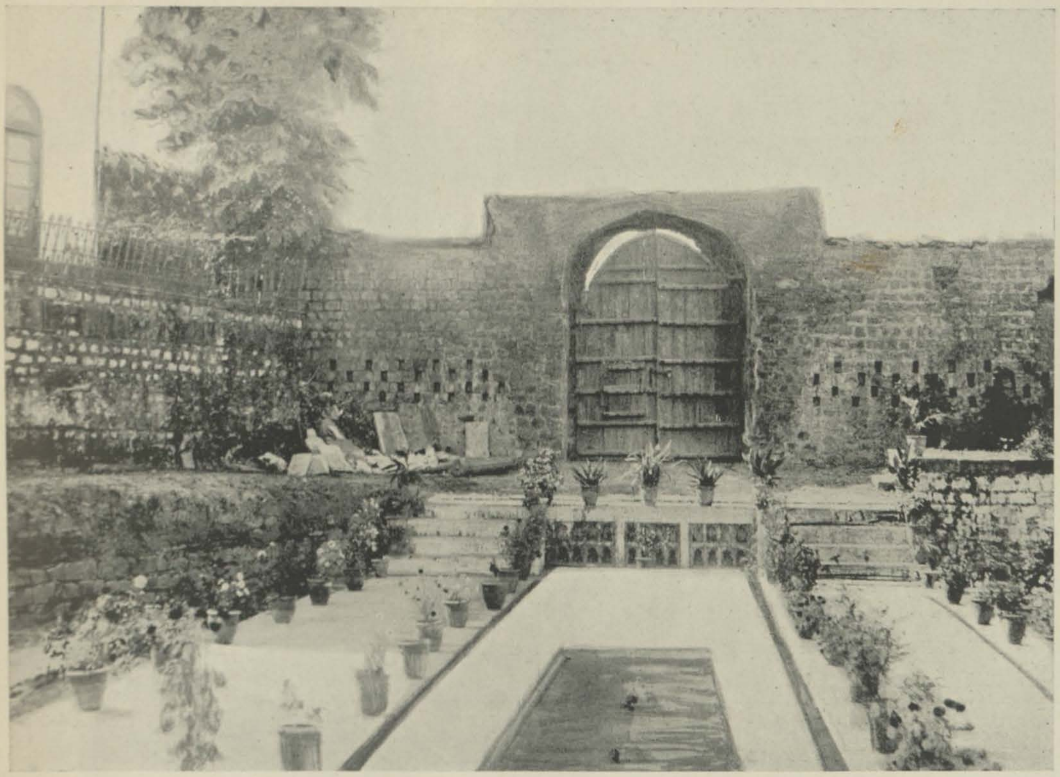
Beyond the walls of the fortress extend the important suburbs which are fast growing in size and population. Of these, Ahmedabad, built on an isolated site along a chain of hills on the gates of Malwa, is the nucleus of a new order of architecture characterised by new designs of which the new Sufia Mosque, neighbour to the tomb of Her late Highness the Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum, is a monument of simplicity and good taste.

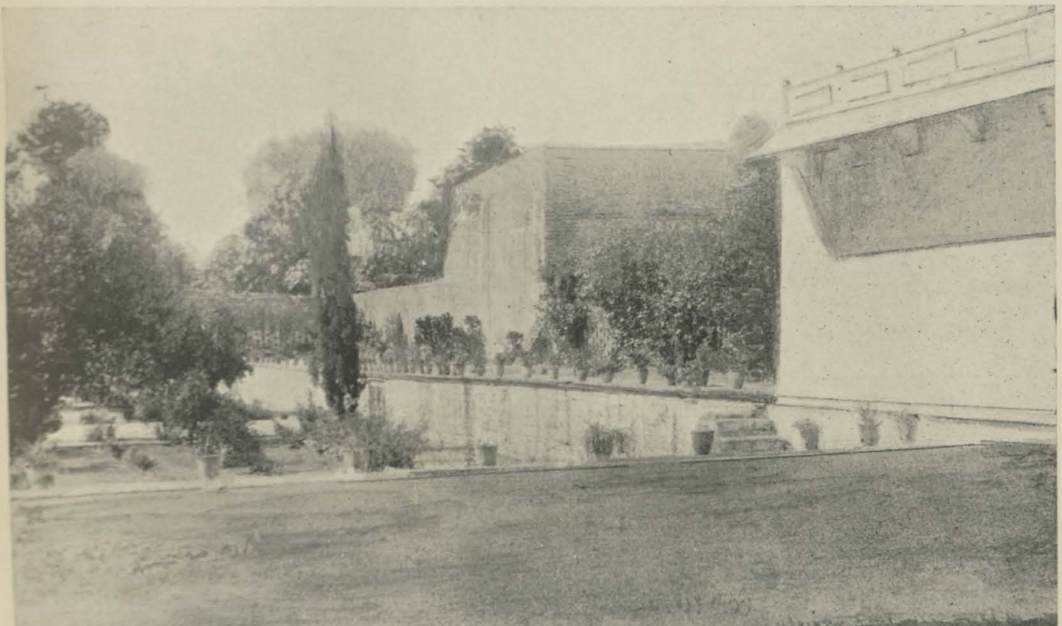
ISLAMNAGAR

Seven miles from the capital city lies the historic town of Islamnagar which is closely associated with the conquests of Nawab Dost Mahomed Khan, who seized it from the Deora Rajputs in 1709, converting it into a fortress to serve as the base of his military operations. It remained the seat of the residence of the Rulers of Bhopal till 1727, when the capital was shifted to the new town of Bhopal. The place is reminiscent of many an interesting episode in the history of the dynasty: here it was that the spirited Moti Begum, sister of Nawab Hayat Mahomed Khan, challenged the treacherous plot of the wretched Murid, the Afghan Minister, to hand over the fortress to Sindhia into whose possession it passed for a short period till, in 1818, it was restored to Bhopal by the Hon'ble East India Company.

SANCHI

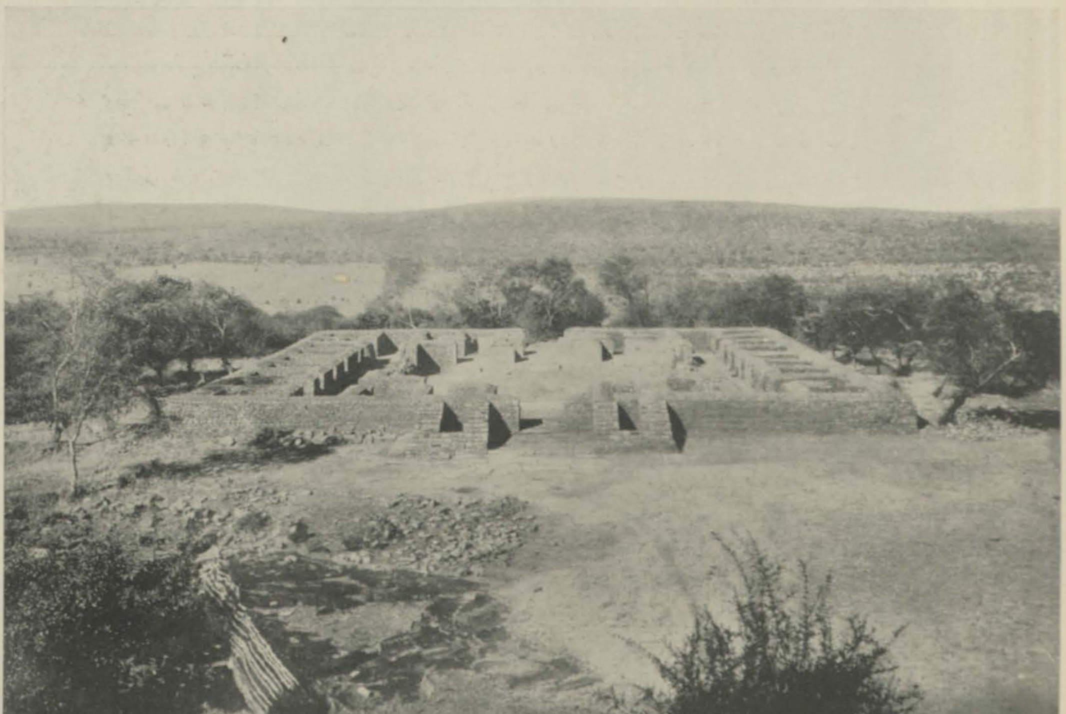
On the main line of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, about 42 miles from Bhopal, lie the noble monuments of Sanchi, which represent the best record of Buddhist sculpture from the days of the Asoka to the Age of the Imperial Guptas. The pillars of the stupas record in stone the idealism of faith, of Buddha's incarnations, the various stages of his spiritual life, the scene of his enlightenment, and the progress of his mission and death. Apart from remarkable art, one cannot but admire the neat pillars of the Convent Hall, which recalls the Greek design; or the beauty of figures which suggest the contact of India with the Western Classical world, while the remains of the Varahas visualise graphically the monastic life of Buddhism in the various stages of its development. It is with awe mingled with veneration that one treads these sites which have been hallowed by the sanctity of ages, the scene of disciplined monastic life,





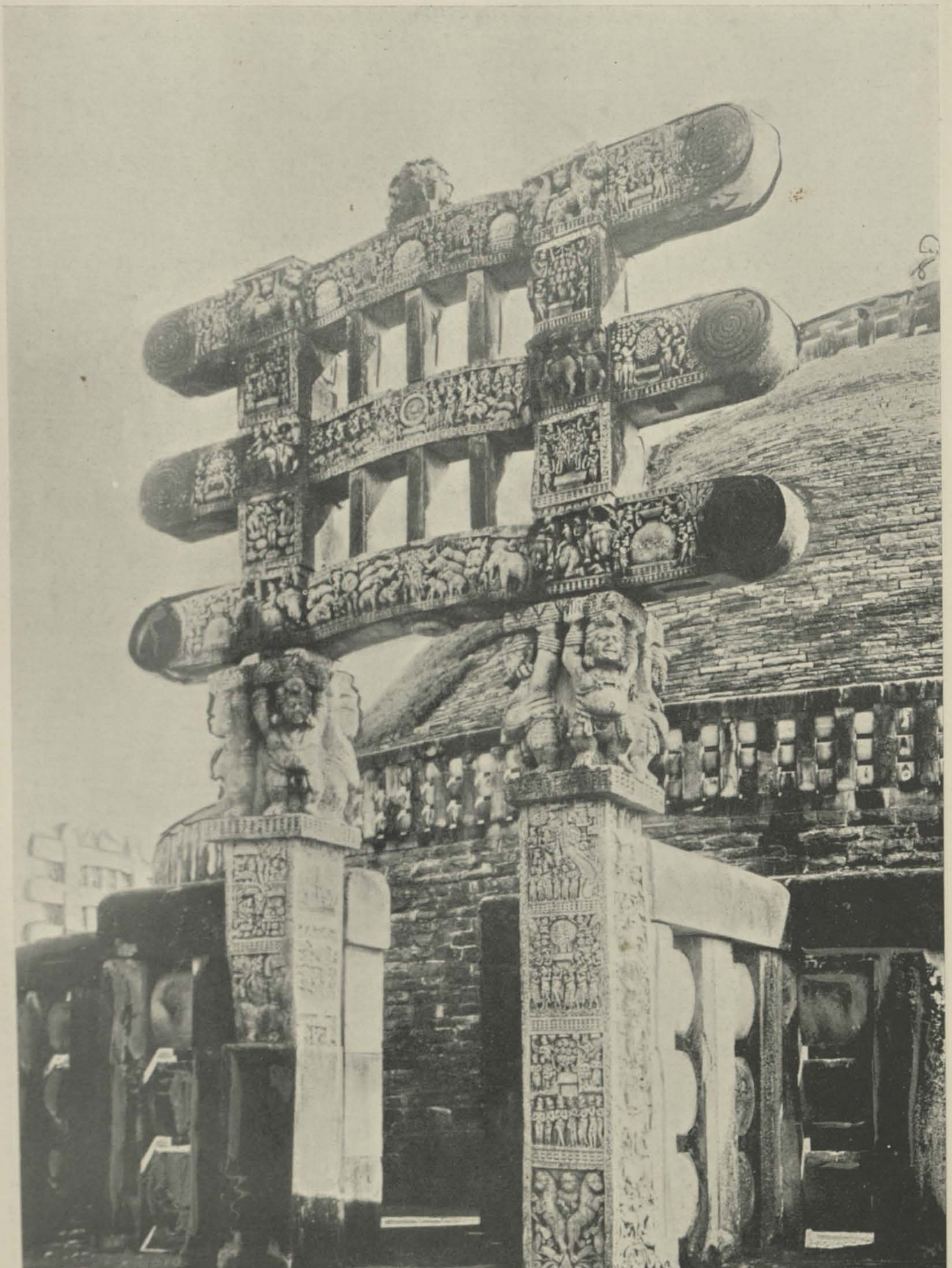


GENERAL VIEW

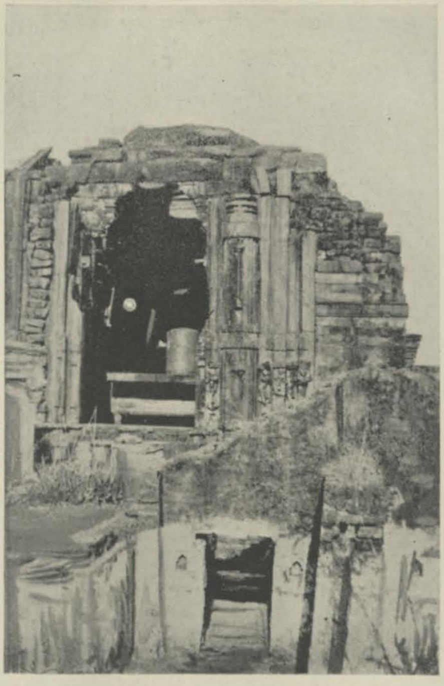


DEVI'S MONASTERY

SANCHI BIG STHUPA, WEST GATEWAY



BHOJPUR



INTERIOR VIEW OF BHOJPUR TEMPLE WITH LINGUM



GENERAL VIEW OF BHOJPUR TEMPLE

RAISEN FORT



GENERAL VIEW

where a long succession of votaries renounced in a long course of history, the joys of this life and the world, in quest of *Nirvana*—the ideal of salvation.

BHOJPUR

To a different category belongs the Shivaite Temple of Bhojpur, which is situated at an important constructional point of the once great lake, known to legend, as the Tal of Bhopal. It is perhaps the temple which Raja Bhoja of the Paramara dynasty built to consecrate his atonement—so runs the legend—for his birth, which cost his mother's life. For the maintenance of the temple, which commemorates this Act of Merit, the *Mahant* holds a *jagir* on behalf of the State of Bhopal. Near-by there stand in close proximity to the Temple, the Jain statues which recall the influence once enjoyed in these regions by the votaries of the cult of *Mahabir*. The dam of this once famous lake was destroyed by Hoshang Shah in the fifteenth century. The lake has ceased to exist, but its bed is now the site of the fertile "Tal" (Lake) district of the State.

RAISEN

Raisen is another fortress preserved as an important historic monument, about 22 miles east of the capital town of Bhopal. Its antiquity is unquestioned, but its interest lies in the part which it played in the mediæval history of India. Perched high on mighty rocks, it is perhaps the most magnificent of the hill-top forts of Malwa. Massive and serene, it rises 1,980 feet above sea-level, and has influenced, at various periods, the history of Eastern Malwa.

In the 13th century, Raisen was occupied by the forces of Altamash; but it early shook off the yoke of Delhi, and had to be reconquered by Ala-ud-din. Again, in the 15th century, it was annexed by the rising state of Malwa under the Khaljis of Mandu, from whom it passed to the Rajputs. From them, after a series of varying fortunes, the fortress was conquered by Sher Shah. In Mogul times, Raisen was the headquarters of a *Sarkár* in the *Súbah* of Ujjain, but again at a later period, when the central authority was weakening, the fortress was made over to Nawab Faiz Mahomed Khan of Bhopal under an Imperial *Farmán* issued to him by Emperor Alamgir II in 1760.

Its places of interest include the mosque of Ghanim-ul-Mulk, three Hindu Palaces and several inscriptions, both Hindu and Muslim, on the walls.

COFFEE PLANTING IN COORG

By MAJOR J. O. F. MAURICE

THE Province of Coorg, which is situated at the top of the Western Ghats, is bounded on its eastern side from North to South by Mysore State, and on the western side by South Canara and Malabar. Mercara, the capital, is at an elevation of 4,000 feet. The population of Coorg, which at the last census amounted to 44,000, varies considerably owing to the fact that the great majority of the coolies employed on coffee estates are imported from outside districts, such as Mysore, South Canara and Malabar.

The country is hilly and wooded, and the main products are paddy, coffee, timber (sandal-wood being the main source of revenue to the Government), pepper, oranges and cardamoms. The nearest railway junction is at Krishnarajanagara (the old Yedatore) in Mysore State, and is some 60 miles from Mercara. The Province is administered by a Chief Commissioner and has, for more than a decade, had its own Legislative Assembly.

The climate is good, the temperature rarely exceeding 90°, and this only during the months of March and April. The rainfall varies from 40 to 300 inches, the average at Mercara being 128 inches. Three-quarters of this rain falls during the period of the south-west monsoon, i.e., from mid-June to mid-September. The Province is generally healthy, now that malaria, which was at one time very prevalent during the months of May and June, has been brought under control.

The date on which coffee was first introduced to India is not known. Popular legend would have us believe that it was brought from Abyssinia or Arabia by a Muslim pilgrim named "Baba-ud-Din," in 1695, to Chickmagalur in Mysore State. The hills on which he planted the seven seeds he had brought, are named after him.

The first estate in Coorg was opened in 1854, a few miles from Mercara, on the slopes of the Western Ghats, but it was soon found that the rainfall here was too heavy and that coffee could not thrive. After 1880 these Estates were abandoned, and the jungle cleared in the interior, where the rainfall was less. Coffee grows best where there is an average rainfall of about 70 to 80 inches. If the rainfall is too heavy, the leaf is attacked by a fungus called "Black Rot" which, spreading all over the leaf, causes the bean to drop to the ground.

Most of the coffee estates are privately owned, and in fact there are only two companies (public) in the Province. The average size of an estate is from 300 to 400 acres, and it is usually managed by an European. There is, as in all

COFFEE PLANTING



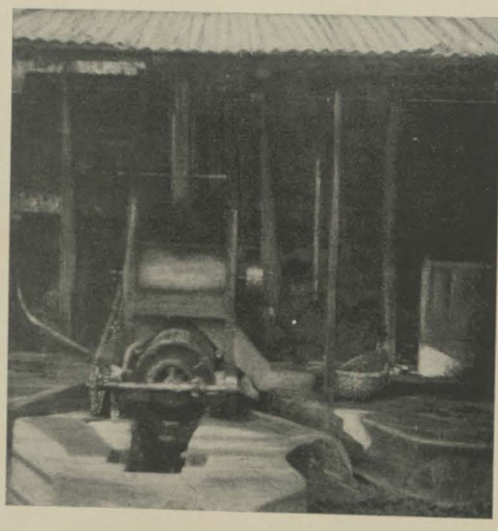
1. ROBUSTA COFFEE IN BLOSSOM



2. ARABICA COFFEE IN BLOSSOM



3. AWAITING MEASUREMENT AT THE PULPER HOUSE



4. THE "PULPER" SHOWING BARREL AND AUTOMATIC SIEVE.

other walks of life, a great deal to learn in coffee planting, but the two main factors are commonsense and observation. Before deciding to take up a planting career, the would-be planter must be sure that he is keen on an outdoor life, is able to control labour, ride, and is fond of all sports. He should also be prepared to adapt himself to a lonely life. The average planter comes out to the East at the age of 19, and goes to live with his Manager, or perhaps in a bungalow by himself, where he learns his profession.

Most of the bungalows are comparatively comfortable and consist of sitting and dining rooms, two bedrooms and a large verandah; very few have their own electric light plants or waterborne sanitation, this being mainly due to the fact that proprietors who came in years gone by had only one thought, and that was to make their money as soon as possible and retire! Nowadays, if a Manager or Superintendent applies for these improvements, he is always confronted with the same answer: "It was good enough for me, so you must put up with it." Of course this is a senseless argument, as the planter who originally came out had the cream of the land and sufficient capital, while in these days it is impossible to earn more than an ordinary living wage.

The hours of work are long and vary according to different seasons, which I will endeavour to explain later on. Each district has one "off day" a week, and on this day the week's supplies are purchased at the local market. The coolies are of many castes, such as Kanarese, Moplahs, Malayalese, Thiyas, etc., and are housed on the estate, usually about ten to a room of, say, 15 feet by 12 feet. Lines have to be built in different sets to allow for these class elements, concerning which they are most particular. Labour is supplied through "Maistries," who are given advances according to the number of coolies they can supply. These advances amount to about Rs. 5 per head, and are deducted from their pay at the end of the year. The "Maistry" receives a 10 per cent. commission on the gross earnings of his coolies for the year. On an estate of, say, 300 acres, there are usually about 300 coolies employed, of which about 30 per cent. are females. Besides the Manager, there are generally two Foreman-Assistants who are in most cases Coorgs and well educated.

The pay of the coolies is annas five per head for a male and annas three per head for a female, and the Foreman-Assistants draw anything from Rs. 40 to Rs. 70 per month *plus* an allowance for a cook. These may appear meagre salaries, but are not so in reality, as they get free housing, firewood and many other small items. They possess other advantages, in that they can keep pigs, cattle, poultry, etc., and also grow their own vegetables.

The Manager usually starts on Rs. 200 a month and, in due course, goes up to Rs. 600 *plus* a commission of 5 per cent. on profits, and a return passage home every three years. Here again the salary may appear small, but as living is cheap, and allowances are given for items such as a driver, two or three coolies, sweepers, etc., Rs. 600 a month on an estate is equivalent to about double that amount in any town or city.

Now to deal with a day's routine. This commences at 7 A.M. when coolies are allotted to the various works, and the day is spent in supervision until 5 P.M., except for a short break at midday. In the evening the "Check Roll" has to be entered up against each cooly, and the cost of each work analysed.

The seasons can be divided from April-November and December-March. During the former all cultivation is done, and during the latter harvesting is carried out.

As a rule, blossom showers come at the end of March, and the blossom opens on the 10th day after the rain. It is pure white in colour and has a very sweet, cloying scent. The best shower is one of about one inch and this usually will bring all buds into flower at one time. Rain on the ninth or tenth day after the shower is disastrous, as it falls on the opening or opened blossom, and thus minimises the chance of fertilisation, which is effected by insects and wind. After the blossom has withered, rain is needed once a week to help the growth of wood, which is now formed for the following year, and to allow the bean to swell.

Cultivation consists of spraying with Bordeaux mixture, removal and destruction of bushes affected by pests and diseases, shade lopping, weeding, manuring, pruning, forking, etc. Owing to heavy rain, as little work as possible is done during the months of July and August.

Harvesting normally commences in December. Each cooly has to pick through a line of trees, only picking the really ripe bean which is cherry-red. For this labour he or she is paid annas five per box containing 60 seers, and in a good year a picker will average 1½ boxes a day. The best pickers are usually women who appear to have more nimble fingers than the men. In the evening, the day's crop is all brought to the Pulper House where it is measured and then put through a pulper, the bean coming out in front and the skin passing behind. The bean is then left in a vat to ferment for 48 hours, after which it is washed to remove the saccharine, and is then spread out on a tiled barbecue and dried down to a weight of about 34 lbs. per imperial bushel. Afterwards it is packed in bags, each containing three bushels, and transported by lorry to one of the many curing factories, either in Mysore or on the West Coast. Here the bean is dried down

further to about 28 lbs. per bushel, and then put through a peeler, which removes the outside husk, after which it goes through a mechanical sizer and is finally sized and sorted by hand. It is then ready for the market. The usual sizes for coffee are graded A, B, C, PB and T.

The average price to-day is from Rs. 32 to Rs. 35 per cwt. for assortment, as against Rs. 90 per cwt. in 1924—28. This fall in price is mainly due to over-production in Brazil, accentuated to-day, of course, by the disappearance of European markets owing to German occupation. There is a scheme now afoot by which it is hoped that consumption in India will be brought to a higher level. In most large cities, coffee shops have been established where coffee can be obtained at a cheap rate, and purity is guaranteed owing to the fact that roasting and grinding are done in the buyers' presence. There are also demonstrators who will show you, free of charge, how to brew a good cup of coffee, which is the whole secret of the enjoyment of this beverage.

There are two Planters' Clubs in Coorg, the North Coorg Club at Mercara, and the Bamboo Club at Pollibetta in South Coorg. Here, usually once a week, meetings take place, and all the planting world and his wife relax in an atmosphere of dancing, bridge, billiards, etc. In Mercara there is a sporting little race-course, where in the good old days when every planter owned a pony or two, Gymkhana meetings were regularly held once a year during the "Mercara Week." Planters gathered from near and far to make "whoopee," and forget, for a time, all about coffee and how much they had earned.

The big-game shooting in reserve blocks is good, bison and elephant being more abundant than other game, as the flesh of these beasts is of little value to the Coorg *riot*. Smaller game is rapidly on the decline, as 90 per cent. of the Coorgs own guns, and Game Laws are not too strictly observed.

The rivers Cauvery and Hatty, which flow through Coorg in an easterly direction, are full of *mahseer* and carp, and so afford days of great enjoyment to the keen fisherman. The record *mahseer* killed weighed 108 lbs., the sportsman in this case being Murray Aynsley who used an 18-foot salmon rod and No. 9 silver-gilt spoon. Blue *mahseer,* weighing anything up to 15 lbs., can be caught in the two rapid streams which flow down the western face of the Ghats, and can also afford a good day's sport.

Coorg is a very accessible province with good roads leading out of it in every direction, so that the weary planter can pack his bag, climb into his car, and find himself in Mysore, the Nilgiris or on the West Coast within a very few hours of leaving his estate.

To quote Hilton Brown in *Blackwood's,* Coorg is really "an astonishing land" unlike many other parts of India, and with a very real charm of its own. To know it is to love it, and there are many worse ways of spending life than in planting coffee in Coorg.

EXPERIENCES AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN ENGLAND NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1940

[Extracts from Letters of Two Brothers]

"Sunday was an uneventful day until about 6 P.M. when the Hun came over, and I can well believe the German communique where it said that 300 tons of H.E. and 10,000 incendiary bombs were dropped. The College Fire Brigade went into action for the first time. A house in Pembroke Road was blazing like hell. The School surgeon lives in the house next door, and we were only just in time to stop it catching well alight. I am afraid the Surgeon's house was a disgusting mess of mud and broken glass, but at least it is not burnt down.

It was very exciting for us, as you may well imagine, especially as we did all the fire-fighting ourselves, whilst some nit-wit A.F.S. chaps stood round looking on apparently quite helpless. The censor probably would not allow me to mention the damage I saw, but none of any vital military importance occurred. It seems to have been a deliberate attack on the civilian population. You would scarcely recognise the Park Street you remember when you were last here. It is rather sad—shops levelled to the ground; several churches were hit and completely gutted, including the Parish Church. When the raid started we were watching a film in the Pre-School Hall and when we came out to rush over to our respective houses, the whole sky was lit up by the red blaze of fire. One saw also the flash of bursting bombs—the beam of the searchlights and the roar and rattle of the anti-aircraft artillery—quite the most impressive sight that I have ever seen, and one got some idea of what a battle must sound like. We saw the Aurora Borealis here in the spring of 1938, and this attack as a spectacle was quite incredibly like it. The whole sky a silvered red. I've never seen barrage balloons look pretty before—but in this silver red glow they really looked quite lovely. But as you can guess, the main thing for us were the fires we had to put out.

On Monday the School Fire Brigade went and cleared up débris in the town. The trouble in the whole of the town was that incendiary bombs fell on the top floors of business premises and no one was there to put out the fires. No one apparently saw them until the roofs were blazing which meant that the fire had got a really good grip. Passers-by could have helped, but all that they did was to say, "Ooh, what a lovely blaze!" Instead of standing still watching, they could—in the case of shops—have broken down windows and got out the goods

and saved them before the fires got at them and sent someone at the same time to the nearest A.F.S. Station. There were too many fires for the A.F.S. alone to deal with, and there seemed to be a certain apathy and lack of organisation. Help was demanded from all sorts of places.

The raid started at midnight and our Fire Brigade was in action within 40 minutes half a mile away. I should have liked to have been behind an anti-aircraft gun that night! ! Every time I heard the shriek and whistle of bombs, I called down thousands of curses on the blasted Hun who was dropping them. It would be awful if a place like Big School caught alight because it would go up in the very devil of a blaze.

The next day (Monday) was one of the happiest days in my life. I was given my cap and so was Freddy. There are now six caps in Oakeleys. Unfortunately, booze is not allowed here and anyhow my finances would not stand the strain—but a bottle of champagne would have been most appropriate."

A Week Later—The Same Writer

"The College Fire Brigade had its most active night last night. A bread-basket or two fell on the Close and around the School buildings. Only two fell on the College buildings—both on the Masters' common room. It shows up the sins and iniquities of the Masters! Even the Jerry wanted to destroy them! We had a busy time putting out the incendiaries as they fell; the only possible thing to do as otherwise it means that H. E. will rain down on the fires. Another incendiary fell on the roof of the Pre-Hall which was successfully dealt with, and another on Mathews House which was also dealt with. The College Fire Brigade are getting quite a good name for themselves.

There were some rather grim moments during the evening, as somewhat naturally we had to go about our business with H. E. falling around. There were three terrific moments in my evening:

Firstly—When we got the word that the College Fire Brigade was wanted, we ran out of the house and saw the whole Close alight with incendiaries. With a fervent "Good God" we doubled to our H.Q. which is under the College buildings next to the barbers' shop and we had to sprint there for orders, with the horrid thought that H. E. would be flying down on top of us as we bolted along the parapet. Never have I run so fast! ! The fear of God or rather of H. E. lent speed to my feet such as they have never experienced before! !

Secondly—The next moment was when I was at the top of a double ladder handing water up on to the roof of the Pre-Hall and I heard

the swine coming, and he let go a stick of bombs and the whistles came closer and closer and finally died away. Gawd, I thought to myself that the end was near then! ! !

But the worst was to come. I and another bloke, thinking we saw a fire in Muir House (actually it was the reflection of another fire) doubled along. On our way there we heard the Hun diving and then came whistles that got so close, or so it seemed, that I was quite prepared for a bomb to fall on the opposite side of the road. I lay so flat that I must have been flush with the ground! The nearest bomb actually fell in the New Field. It must have been a big one--we both felt the hot blast of air in our faces! ! All we could do was—as I have since heard it aptly expressed—"Cringe with fear and pee one's pants! !" A very fitting description! ! Two big bombs fell on the Pre-Close. How the School was not hit I am at a loss to understand. The most moving thing of the whole evening was when the Padré, Mr. Brooke, who is a tower of strength in the Fire Brigade, said a short prayer of thanks giving when we were all assembled again in the Rover Room. I must say that every one must have been extremely thankful.

I am very glad that I have had some small experience of "active service"—nothing much but just to show me in miniature—very miniature—what it is like, and as long as I don't funk and can go on doing my fire-fighting stuff when the next raid comes, it will be all right.

I now must tell you the most important news of the week. We beat Felsted at Rugger 17-5 and, the most important of all, Freddy got his XV colours. Isn't it wizard!

Freddy and I stayed at the town for a week in case we were wanted. We did salvaging all day in the town and kept various watches during the night—at the Pre and the San and so on—it has all been rather hectic and the peacefulness of Merriott is very pleasant. Soldiers are just coming in—gunners this time. I am afraid this is a very dull letter as there really is not very much news!"

Another Letter—The Other Brother

I am sorry there has been such a long delay betwen letters but, as you might know, there has been another blitz on the town. I will describe just what happened around us.

It was during prep. when the blitz started and I was writing to Nan describing the previous raid, when I heard the Hun overhead, and the next moment I heard the whistle of a bomb. I flung myself on the floor. Archie laughed as he thought it was a train! I was right, however, and before the evening was out

Archie, too, had learned the sense of lying flat! The house was sent down to the shelters but before long the call for the School Fire Brigade came. We had already taken the precaution of dressing for the part. So it did not take us long to mobilize. It was somewhat disconcerting, for as we came to the house door, we saw the whole Close lit up by incendiaries, the School itself being thereby magnificently flood-lit. We thought that they would plop down H. E., but we pelted over to our H. Q. Two incendiaries had landed in the Masters' common room. We got on to them immediately and they were no trouble whatsoever. The ones on the Close were also put out. We then filled empty buckets with sand or water for the next lot. We had just finished doing this job and getting hoses mobilized, when the cry came through that the Pre-School Hall was alight. We gathered up stirrup pumps and all other necessities and dashed along. Ladders were shot up with incredible rapidity. I had the wonderful satisfaction of laying into a locked door with an axe. This was to get into the eves. When this door fell to bits, Peter Brooke (the School Padré) and I went along. He laid about with an axe at certain beams and rafters while I endeavoured to put out the fires caused to the roofing material.

Hoses were being used but they could not quite reach the fire which was beginning to look serious, so we decided to try and get the hose up. Archie was below playing the hose from inside. I asked him whether he could pass the hose towards a certain hole, if I hung down out of it. Well, it seemed moderately easy at the time except that I had the hose playing into my face and going down my neck for about five seconds. But when I looked at the scene the next day, it looked quite impossible. Archie must have done an incredible reach, at the same time running the imminent risk of falling from the balcony to the floor below—the further he reached the more it was likely he would overbalance. We came to the conclusion that I must have clutched the jet of water!! Well, we successfully put out that fire and returned to our Headquarters. There was nothing else that night quite so thrilling, except when H. E. started to fall. Some more incendiaries fell too and we put them out. It was not all plain sailing, for the Huns came over continually and we had to lie flat so often, feeling most exposed, our flesh twitching expectantly! Why we received all this packet was because that ugly erection All Saints Church had caught fire and was blazing away, and the Hun aimed at the fire. The School was wonderfully lucky. About 50 incendiaries landed on the Close and on the roads round the School buildings and about six landed on the School building. Two vast H. E. landed on the Pre-Close, just missing the Science School. Another landed in the

Avenue missing the Pre, and a huge one landed on the Squash and Fives Courts behind Polacks. It is no exaggeration when I say that a bit of bomb was found next morning which no one could lift, and stones were hurled all the way over to the Close. The crater was about 40 feet wide by 15 feet deep. It completely demolished the Fives Courts. Of course, all Wiseman's and Polack's windows were blown out. Polack's was structurally damaged. Another bomb landed in Wiseman's garden and another on the New Field. When the raid was over, the Padré with the Fire Brigade said a prayer of thanks, and it was most impressive. Archie and I, with others, did a good week's salvaging and watching the School at night, and the remainder of the School were sent home.

We had an excellent match against Felsted whom we beat 17-5. We were particularly glad about this win for we had had a week of blitz with no training and very little sleep. I am happy to say I got my XV Colours."

* * * *

School Reports—Not in the Letters Quoted!

"As leader of the Fire Brigade he has held a post of practical responsibility which can hardly be exaggerated. When put to the test the Brigade was not wanting. The boys in the Fire Brigade have done the work of men in the front line and their efficiency and courage has been reported all round the town.

First I would like to tell you how splendidly the boys behaved during the bombing and subsequently. Those who had fire-fighting jobs to do undoubtedly saved the School from serious damage. Those who had to remain in the shelters showed extraordinary calmness and cheerfulness. Particular credit is due to senior boys who, by their own example and thought for others, gave the lead.

In the subsequent disorganisation of the public services and the school routine, the perfect discipline and self-negation of all raised difficulty and discomfort to the level of adventure, and practically eliminated it before it became tedious.

Salvage and repair work done in the city by volunteers from the School has won the highest praise and warmest gratitude from private householders and public bodies alike. I should like to express my personal thanks to all, without exception, for everyone played his part, but no one will grudge a special word of thanks to those who voluntarily stayed behind to help."

ELEPHANT SHOOTING

By J. DE W. VAN INGEN

THE Indian elephant's head makes a very vulnerable target. It is worth study, for the brain is only 12″ × 12″ × 6″ and is situated low down between the earholes. It weighs 17 lbs. The head is a mass of air sinuses (bony cell structures). Due to this, unless properly hit, an elephant can hold an incredible amount of lead without being mortally wounded. If it is not hit in the right spot, even with an anti-tank gun (and I would venture to say that Sanderson's 4-bore would very nearly equal one) it is able to get away with little chance of being found.

The top half of a big dried elephant skull I have here weighs 170 lbs. and the lower jaw 82 lbs.

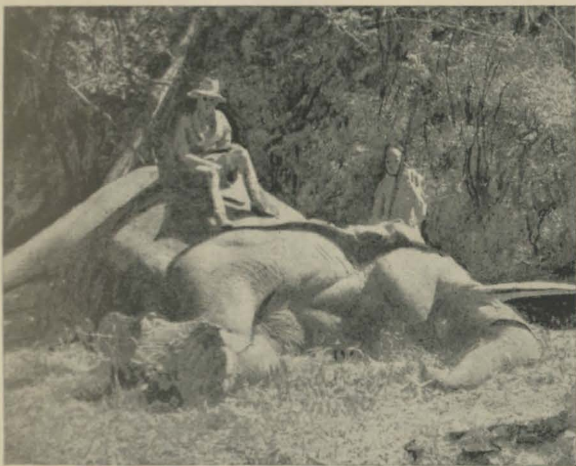
Sanderson's description and diagrams are very good indeed, but even with these he was not able to kill all the elephants he fired at, in spite of using his 4-bore and firing two or more shots at some of them.

I quote from *Bullet and Shot in Indian Forest, Plain and Hill*, by Russell, to prove how important it is to study the skull first, and to show how much punishment an elephant will take, and still get away:

"In January, 1882, I left Mysore with "H" of the Forest Department and, upon the fifth day of our trip, I met with an adventure which nearly brought my big-game shooting days to an abrupt conclusion ere they had well begun.

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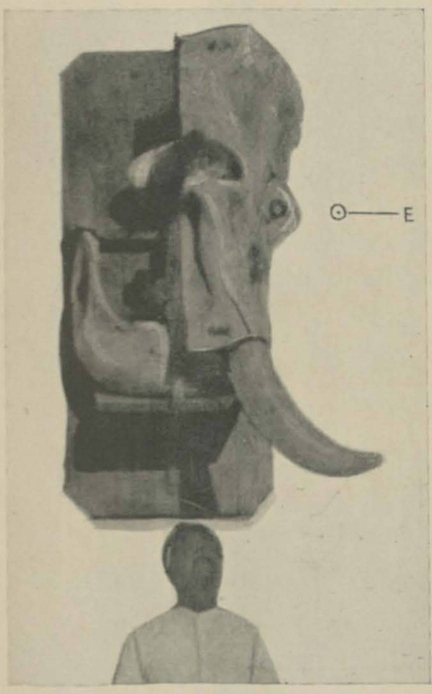
"Thinking that the elephant had discovered us and was running away, I took the 8-bore and ran up, in order, if possible, to intercept him, when, to my surprise, I saw the rogue standing beside a bamboo clump, in high open jungle, on a gentle slope above me. The dry, crackling leaves which strewed the ground made noiseless progress impossible, even to a Kurraba, and there was no cover beyond sparsely scattered bamboo clumps. Half running and half walking, I closed in quickly. The elephant meanwhile stood facing me, and apparently staring at me. About 25 or 30 yards from him was a thin dead trunk standing at an angle of about 45 degrees. It occurred to me that this might be useful as a breastwork in case of a charge, so I fired from behind it, aiming at the elephant's forehead. Both barrels went off simultaneously, owing to my having pulled the right trigger, and the elephant,



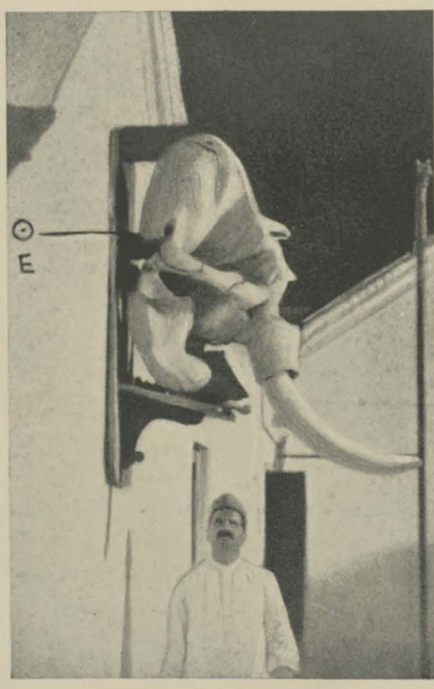
Mr. Joubert van Ingen sitting on the Rogue elephant.



Half section of an elephant's skull showing the brain and also the air sinuses or bony cell structures.



Front view of half section of an elephant's skull showing the brain. The dot on the right is where the eye is.



Side view of an elephant skull.
E—Ear-hole.

after tottering for a few seconds, fell with a crash like a falling tree. He lay on the ground, only slightly and convulsively moving his legs. "H" then joined me with the men and, after I had reloaded, we went in nearer. The elephant began to struggle and tried to rise, so "H" fired both barrels of his .577 express, and then ran away, followed by the men with my spare guns and cartridges. I went back to the leaning trunk and, after waiting until the elephant had finished floundering about and had regained his legs, I again fired at his head. Once more both barrels went off, whilst the animal stood, swinging slightly from side to side, and looking very shaky. I had only two more cartridges left in my pocket, which I now put into the rifle, and fired again. For the third time both barrels went off, and immediately after the report the elephant advanced towards me. I was now quite defenceless, and had to run for it, getting behind a bamboo clump, round which, to my horror, the rogue followed me. I then set off as fast as I could down the most open glade which I could see, the elephant gaining on me at every stride, when I suddenly saw "H" standing behind a bamboo clump, whose shelter he had gained after he ran away when the elephant attempted to rise. I thought, of course, that he must have reloaded and, making a final effort, I reached the clump, with the elephant almost on my heels, and pulled up beside him. The elephant stopped for a moment, "H" said, and twisted his trunk about to smell, but fortunately he had received sufficient punishment; for, having lost sight of me, he went on at a great pace, and crossed the frontier into Coorg. "H," I found, was still unloaded, and he told me that his cases had stuck, so it was lucky that the rogue did not prosecute a search for me. I was somewhat amused at "H" asking me (rather indignantly) why I had come to his clump!

* * * *

"After this I wounded and lost several elephants, and it was not until the 24th August in the same year (1882) that I succeeded in bagging my first."

The elephant skull in the accompanying photographs is nine feet six inches off the ground. The photographs were taken at seven paces. One half of the brain can be easily seen. The cavity in front of the skull is the bump at the base of the trunk (the passage of the trunk). The little dot on the right below it is the eye.

The following are the shots to be recommended:

Frontal: Aim into the bump three inches above the level of the eyes.

45 *Degrees*: The temple shot. Aim just above the zygomatic arch or into the hollow behind the eye. Do not ever fire into the temple unless three-fourths on, or you will only floor the elephant. If the angle is less, say 22½ degrees, aim above the eye.

Broadside or 90 *Degrees*: Aim into the hole of the ear. (The brain lies between the holes.)

All these shots are sound, provided, of course, that the sportsman is on the same level as the elephant, and that the latter's head is in the normal position. Always remember when an elephant is floored, to run up and fire a shot into its heart. The elephant may only have been stunned! A body shot will also prove fatal if fired low down into the elbow where this muscle joins the body. The animal may, however, run 60 or 70 yards with this shot before falling.

In the following lines, I give an account of an elephant I shot recently, which might be of interest, and will show the novice that it is no armchair sport, although it is of the grandest and full of thrills.

I would like to mention that it was only since this experience that I have studied the skull in greater detail; hence the photographs and this article which I hope will also be of use to others.

I came across this particular rogue elephant while out shooting with a friend in Coorg. I found out from the local inhabitants that he had nearly caught the Forest Guard, who, with two jungle men, had miraculous escapes. He had actually killed two people in the adjoining block and was holding up traffic. All Forest work was at a standstill.

On return to Mysore I applied for permission for myself and my brother Joubert to shoot the rogue. As we had no solid .470 ammunition, we had to manage with soft-nosed .470's for Joubert, and an old 8-bore of mine for which I had only two solid cartridges.

In the meantime, the monsoon had burst with a vengeance, and we had the devil's own job negotiating the eighteen miles of jungle road.

The Range Forest Officer gave me a description of the elephant: for woe betide the unfortunate who shoots the wrong elephant.

The three of us then, together with a local shopkeeper as gunbearer, motored down the road to a Kurumba Hardi (hamlet) where the Range Forest Officer was to find me trackers and also get recent *khabbar* of the elephant.

On our way we were fortunate to come across a Kurumba, Kala by name, who subsequently turned out to be one of the most fearless trackers I have ever met.

He knew all about the single tusker, and said it had crossed the road that morning half a mile farther down. We took him with us, and sure enough, there were the tracks, and a great clod of loose earth pushed down from the bank by the elephant, where he had left the road. He had walked along the road for half a mile before turning into the jungle again.

Kala and the shopkeeper volunteered to go and see if the elephant had wandered away or was still near, while we motored to the Hardi to get two more men.

On our return we found Kala beaming all over. "Sahib," he said, "You should have come with us for you could easily have shot the elephant. It is not very far from here—only two 'perlong'."

I parked the car just off the road, and we all got out into the slush and rain and took out our rifles, full of hope, and congratulating ourselves on locating the tusker so soon.

There was a terrific gale blowing from behind us and driving the rain in the direction the elephant had gone. I decided to work round and to advance upwind. "Otherwise," I chaffed Kala, "if the elephant gets our wind mightn't he run away?" Kala laughed. "Oh, no, Sahib. You need not worry about him running away!"

Our path led through a plot of three-year-old teak. How warm it was here out of the wind! At the top of a short rise, we came to a new clearing bordering a twenty-year-old teak plot, and looking ahead one could see a wide open valley of young teak. The path continued to the bottom of the valley where we crossed a narrow, very deep gorge and a stream. We went up the steep incline opposite and on to the further rim of the valley where there was a long strip of big trees, mostly teak windbreakers. Turning left, we followed a cart track along this line of trees for a quarter of a mile. We then halted and I took over my 8-bore and Joubert his .470. The elephant was now between us and the car, in a patch of thick cover consisting of bamboo and twenty-year-old teak choked with lantana and long grass. I could see it would be like looking for a needle in a haystack.

We could now look down on to the valley, but Kala could not decide where he had seen the elephant. I now wished we had gone along its tracks and risked the consequences rather than having to struggle through this awful cover. However,

when everything was ready, I gave the order to march, and we were gradually swallowed up by the lantana. It was soon over our heads, and we could see no farther than an arm's length in front of us. We had to crawl on all fours to get through some of it. We next came to an elephant path where there were comparatively recent—but not fresh—tracks of the old tusker. We followed this path down to the narrow gorge, across the stream and up the steep bank on the other side.

A tiger had passed here in the morning, for there were his tracks and also the tracks of a herd of bison. Struggling up the slippery track, with the bank towering above me, I couldn't help thinking what a disastrous place this would be in which to meet the elephant. Kala was always ahead, but nothing ever seemed to worry him.

After continuing along the elephant path for a short distance, we turned right into a sea of long-grass amongst the teak. There were numbers of broken teak trees and branches here, obvious signs of the elephant's recent depredations, but we could not find any decisive trail. I kept sending men up trees to look around, but due to the lantana they could see nothing.

In the meantime the wind had changed, and it was blowing from all directions. We continued for some time along old jungle tracks and sometimes along elephant paths, until Kala remarked that it was getting on towards evening, and the elephant must be making for that tender new clearing, and we were bound to find him there. He suggested we had better go back the way we had come, for he would have to cross our path near the gorge to get there.

While walking along the line of trees—the windbreakers—on our way back to the young teak, Joubert happened to look across the valley to the lantana opposite, and spotted the elephant. Only his back and head were visible and he was within 400 yards of the new clearing. Near him stood a solitary charred tree trunk, so huge that it made an easy landmark from which to take our bearings during our 400-yard stalk through the lantana. Kala told me there was an old path we could follow leading to the tree trunk, and after some debating we decided to follow this. We were able to walk only a few yards, and then had to crawl on hands and knees and sometimes on our stomachs. At times it was very aggravating, what with my hat, the thorns, the 8-bore and the slush. We had progressed some distance in this manner, when there was a sudden blast from the elephant! The wind was in his direction and this was just a sign of his annoyance. The lantana was so thick here that it was hard to sit up, let alone to see, and Kala very cheerfully told me, by way of encouragement, that we were not very

far from the tree trunk. This made us all think, and I explained to Kala that it would be futile going on. Should the elephant come to look for us, according to his custom, I could only shoot him in the legs. Having only two cartridges I did not think this advisable. He quite agreed and suggested we should try tackling it from another direction. We, therefore, turned round and proceeded to crawl out, and it was a great relief to be out in the open and on our feet again.

From here we manœuvred around leaving some of the men in the windbreakers to watch the elephant while we were swallowed up by the lantana.

We crossed the stream by the elephant path again, but instead of swinging out to the right as before, took a path a little to the left which led through long grass and teak directly towards the elephant. Here there were absolutely fresh signs, teak trees and leaves trampled and crushed, so we walked very cautiously. The view was limited and we expected old *hathi* around every bend. Sure enough a sudden blast proclaimed his presence and, what was more important, that he had got our wind. Kala got behind me and said, "He is coming, Sahib. You must kill him. We can't run here." We waited anxiously but could see nothing. The men in the windbreakers were making an undue noise, and perhaps this puzzled old *hathi*, and prevented him from looking for us. We then shifted our position in hopes of seeing him, but to no avail. It now started to rain in torrents and there was nothing to do but retreat, as it was also nearly dark. We cautiously stalked out and got back to the car soaking wet.

There was a nice fire going in the bungalow and we lost no time in changing and getting warm again.

The next morning at 8 A.M., we met Kala and his comrades at the same place on the roadside. They were already soaking wet, for the rain had not abated. He told me they had been to look for the elephant, but could not find where it had left the cover. We followed the men along the path we had taken the previous day, through the young clearing, across the stream, up the steep incline, and to the windbreakers, then left along the cart track to the top of another ridge. Old signs of the elephant were everywhere, and broken teak saplings were quite a common sight. It would be impossible to estimate what the elephant had cost the Forest Department in damage to their teak.

We frequently found tracks of bison, and some of the men whom I had sent in another direction returned to say they had seen a herd of them, but no sign of the elephant. Kala then suggested that he and the other men should go into the cover where we had last seen the elephant, follow what tracks they could pick up

there, and try to work out the direction it had taken, for the elephant could not possibly be in the same cover still. Not wanting to crawl through this infernal lantana again, I consented, and the men left us amongst the windbreakers. The wind was so strong that teak leaves were continually being blown away, and on one occasion a big branch came crashing down. This must have upset the balance of the tree, for soon we heard a loud report and away went the rest of the tree. Dry branches were continually coming down as well.

Presently the men arrived to say that they had found the fresh tracks. I was glad to leave this desolate scene.

The men informed me that the elephant had wandered towards the bungalow on a parallel with the road, and was probably in some cover in a grassy part of the forest two miles away. To my relief they told me there was no lantana. We were advised to go in the car two miles down the road, where Kala, who was following the tracks, would meet us.

We found Kala waiting by the roadside in the rain. He had walked into the elephant unexpectedly and had legged it, followed of course by the old *hathi*! This had taken place a mere two furlongs from where we stood.

How different it was walking through these forests of great big trees and grass three feet high! Here again the eddies of wind kept changing and I smoked many cigarettes in a vain effort to discover its real direction.

Owing to the varying direction of the wind, we decided that we could not follow the elephant's tracks, in case it might get wind of us, and so had to be content with scouting around on the chance of running across him.

We zigzagged through the grass and shrub for some time, but saw no sign of the elephant. The rain was pelting down, and I spent my time keeping my hands and the hammers of the 8-bore dry. This was to prevent the hammers slipping at the critical moment should the elephant suddenly appear.

Eventually we came to a place which Kala recognized as being where he had spotted the elephant, and here we found the story of its charge told in the mud. His enormous hurried footmarks were deeply imprinted, and trees mown down on either side by his headlong rush.

We followed on the spoor till it came into lantana again. This was most unwelcome, as can be imagined, but it was not as bad as that of the day before. The elephant had torn a passage through it, so, although it had to some extent sprung back to its original position, we did not have as difficult a struggle as on the previous day.

While going along, Kala stopped once and said in a whisper, "Can you hear the elephant flapping his ears?" Elephants very often stand perfectly still and all one can hear is the flapping of their ears. We waited tensely, but it was only a false alarm. Then a tree came down with a crash. We stopped again, but this time it was the wind.

The trail turned and twisted through this cover for quite a distance, and at times I could not see a yard in front of me. The elephant appeared to have got our wind and was moving around in circles trying to locate us. This was only to be expected, as the wind was so capricious that we had had to abandon any idea of using it as an ally. The trail eventually got out of the lantana and then quite by accident we came onto a fresh spoor. These tracks led back into the cover. So the elephant had evidently come out, changed his mind and gone back again.

We followed him in, Kala in front, soaking wet and shivering in every limb, and Joubert behind complaining that the .470 safety catch refused to work easily, and that his wet hands made it even more difficult. We had gone fifty yards when Joubert said, "Elephant! elephant!!" While I cocked the 8-bore very carefully we both looked round, but could see nothing at first. Then, looking to our right rear, there was the old *hathi*, standing almost broadside on, with his trunk aloft, trying to get our wind.

And now comes the anxious moment when one is after a proscribed elephant. "Had he one tusk on the right side, the other a stump?" There was no time to lose. We could see one tusk above the lantana—his right—but what about the other?

Joubert moved to the right, for there was a tree hiding a vital head shot, and signalled to me that it was the "single-tusker." In the meanwhile I had also walked forward for a better view, but as the tree was still in the way, I took a chance, aiming between the eye and the ear, and fired. The resulting smoke screen hid the elephant from me. Joubert fired immediately afterwards, and we saw or rather heard, the old *hathi*, collapse with a terrific thud. Presently I saw his head appear above the lantana. He was trying to get up. I drew a careful bead on the hole in his ear and was just pressing the trigger when Joubert fired again, and the head disappeared from view. As it was lying still, we both ran up, and Joubert put a shot into its heart. He then ran back to reload. At this moment, to my horror, I saw the enormous beast raise himself on his forelegs and stand up.

It seemed to take an eternity to draw a bead on his head while he was in

the act of getting up, but at last I fired at almost point-blank range. In my haste to turn round and run away after the shot, I fell down. Looking round I could just see the elephant's head through the cloud of smoke. I tried twice to grab at the 8-bore and get away, but in the slush I seemed to be absolutely helpless. I heard one of the men say, "Run, run, the *sahib* has fallen!"

Making a frantic effort I was up and away to the nearest tree with my 8-bore but without any more cartridges. When the smoke cleared, the great beast was down to rise no more, but Joubert gave him another in the heart to make certain.

I was relieved to find he was the correct elephant. He was a big animal. The circumference of his forefoot was 4′ 11″ which means that he was 9′ 10″ at the shoulder. The one tusk weighed 40 lbs. and the stump 18 lbs. He had a big sore in his throat with a mass of matter oozing from it.

The stumpy tusk was split lengthwise in two places down the middle. It was an ingrowing tusk of solid ivory with bits like coral adhering to it in places. The elephant must have damaged this tusk when quite young and consequently suffered agony.

This is my third single tusker and, strange to relate, they have all fallen on the tuskless side. I have been told they always do this, and it would be interesting to hear the experience of others.

ONE-ACT PLAY

Scene: A British Infantry Orderly Room at a station in England.

Time: 0900 hrs. on a Monday morning pre-1914.

Characters: A Commanding Officer who suffers from a cast in one eye, three private soldiers and a R.S.M.

Action: The three privates have just been marched in before the Commanding Officer to be dealt with on a charge of "drunk and disorderly" outside a well-known public House on the previous Saturday night. The charge has been read, the evidence heard. The Commanding Officer is about to hear the defence of the three accused.

Commanding Officer (Looking up from the charge sheet at the first man): What have you got to say?

2nd Man: I wasn't there at all, Sir.

Commanding Officer (Looking at second man): I didn't speak to you.

3rd Man: I never said a word, Sir.

Curtain.

SINGLE HARNESS, A WARTIME ECONOMY

A LETTER TO A BEGINNER ON BREAKING A HORSE TO HARNESS

BY CAPTAIN R. B. BARCROFT

GASEETAPUR,
January 6th, 1941.

MY DEAR NAWABZADA SAHIB,

Very many thanks for your letter. I am glad to hear that you have now arrived back at your home safely.

Yes, I think that you are right when you say that the price of petrol is shortly to be increased, and I quite agree with you that running a high-powered car around Cantonments is an expensive item.

Why do you not do as I do, and use a horse-and-trap of some sort for all local journeys? It is quite simple and the cost is negligible. Furthermore, if you set about it the right way and have a well-trained horse, it is really a very pleasant way of getting about.

The last time that I was staying with you, you very kindly let me see your stable, and as far as I remember you had two pigstickers and four polo ponies. Any one of these could easily be broken to harness, and I assure you it would in no way spoil them either as pigstickers or as polo ponies; in fact in many cases harness improves a horse as a ride. In the old days, of course, our fathers selected their harness horses with great care and used to spare no expense when they were buying them. Nowadays, and especially in war-time, we have to make do with the animals that we already possess.

I do not pretend to be an expert on the subject, but I can pass on to you a few tips that I learnt from my father and from my own personal experience during nine years of driving.

If it is of any use to you, I will outline briefly one method of breaking a horse to harness which is both simple and satisfactory. Before going any further I will say a few words about the type of horse required.

Out of the six horses in your stable, choose the quietest, as temperament in driving is essential for obvious reasons. A horse in a trap, for cantonment work, will have to stand perhaps for an hour or two at a time whilst you are shopping or at the club; he will also have to proceed quietly through traffic of all types

without getting upset (he may meet noisy processions in the bazaar). It is just a waste of time to try and break a horse which "hots up." It can be done, but it is more trouble than it is worth. There are several other considerations that should be borne in mind, but temperament is the most essential, and as it is war-time, we have to make do with what we've got and I won't bother your head with them.

Having selected the horse, you must now start to break him to harness. The actual breaking can be divided into four stages. It is as well to remember never to start a fresh stage before the previous one is confirmed, that is to say, before the horse can do what is required of him in that stage, perfectly.

The stages are given below:

(1) Longeing, using long reins.

(2) Driving along the road, using long reins and accustoming the horse to the feel of the harness.

(3) Driving the horse between bamboo shafts, using long reins.

(4) Introducing the horse to the cart.

I will now do my best to describe to you each stage in turn.

STAGE (1)

LONGEING IN LONG REINS

Tackle Required:

(*a*) Snaffle Bridle,

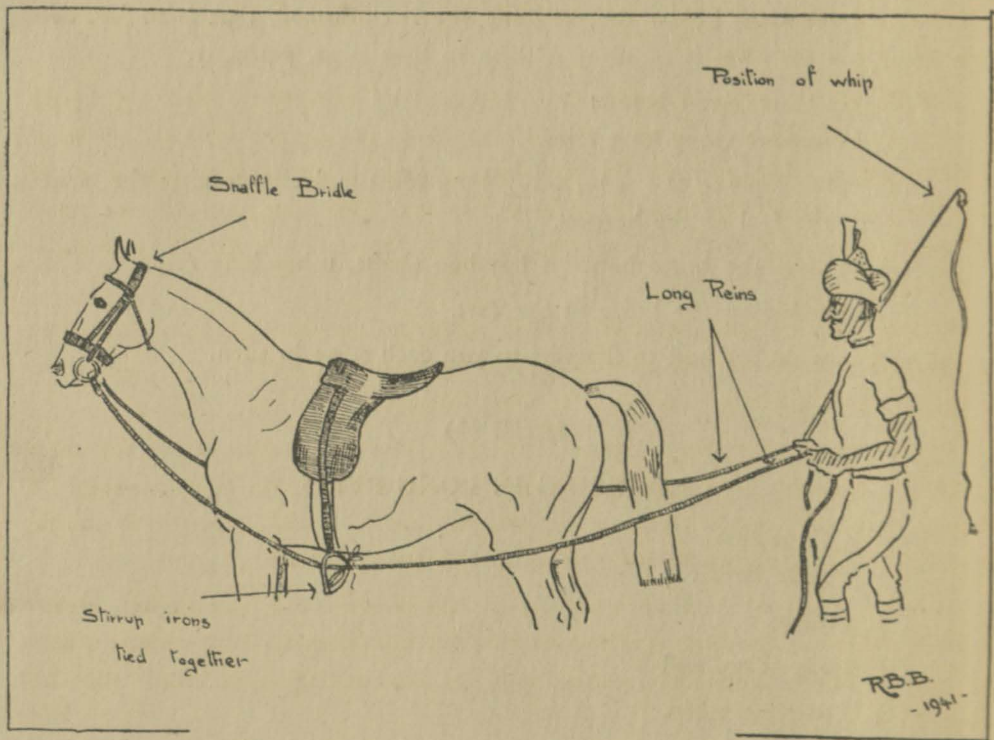
(*b*) Saddle,

(*c*) Long reins, and

(*d*) Longeing whip.

Place the snaffle bridle and the saddle on the horse in the normal way, let down the stirrup irons to their fullest extent and then tie the off-side iron and the near-side iron together underneath the belly of the horse, with a piece of string. Next take your long reins and attach them to the near-side and off-side rings of the snaffle respectively, pass the spare ends through the stirrup irons as per diagram. The long reins themselves should be light and about twelve yards in length. They are best made out of webbing. If you cannot get hold of webbing, then go to the local grocers and buy lampwick. Lampwick is strong and light and will serve your purpose.

Take your horse out to a convenient piece of open ground. You should be accompanied by an experienced orderly. Place the orderly at the horse's head and tell him to lead the horse round you in a circle. When the horse understands what you wish him to do, tell the orderly to slip quietly away from his head and make the horse continue to walk round you, gently using the whip for this purpose if you have to. Then repeat the process on the other rein until the horse will go kindly, at the walk, on either of them.



DRIVING IN LONG REINS

At this stage you must bear in mind two things: one, make the horse walk around you, and do not start walking round him, i.e., longe him and do not let him longe you; and two, always use the same words of command. Your aid for increase and decrease of pace is the voice aid. Forget your riding, and use the driving aids; they are:

(1) From the halt to the walk—WALK ON (*voice*).

(2) From the walk to the trot—"WHEE WHEE" (*whistle*).

(3) From the trot to the walk—WHOAY WHOO (*voice*).

(4) From the walk to the halt—HUP (*voice*).

There is an aid for the canter but it is better not to bother about it now. To enforce the voice aid you have always got the whip, but never use it unless it is really necessary.

Provided that you do not vary these aids with little ideas of your own, you will find that the horse quickly gets to know what is required of him and will halt, walk, or trot as you wish.

Do not hurry, just have patience. I previously mentioned that you ought to select a quiet horse to break. Sometimes quiet horses are difficult to longe because they are sluggish and therefore stop as soon as the orderly leaves go of their heads. If you are breaking a horse like this, then I suggest that you make the orderly walk behind him, keeping the horse moving by a gentle application of the whip.

As soon as he is going quietly on both reins you can start changing him from the near-side rein to the off-side rein or *vice versa,* on the move. Be careful to see that he does not stop, and do it very gently at first.

The process is simple. Take it that your horse is moving round you on a left-handed circle on the near-rein; in order to turn him, relax the pressure on the near rein and exert pressure on the off-rein; the horse will turn to the off-side and will then be walking around you on a right-handed circle.

As soon as you are sure that your horse can do this and thoroughly understands it, continue the same training at the trot, but never let him canter; a harness horse is rarely required to canter, and you must not let him think that he should do so.

STAGE (2)

DRIVING ALONG THE ROAD USING LONG REINS AND ACCUSTOMING THE HORSE TO THE FEEL OF HARNESS.

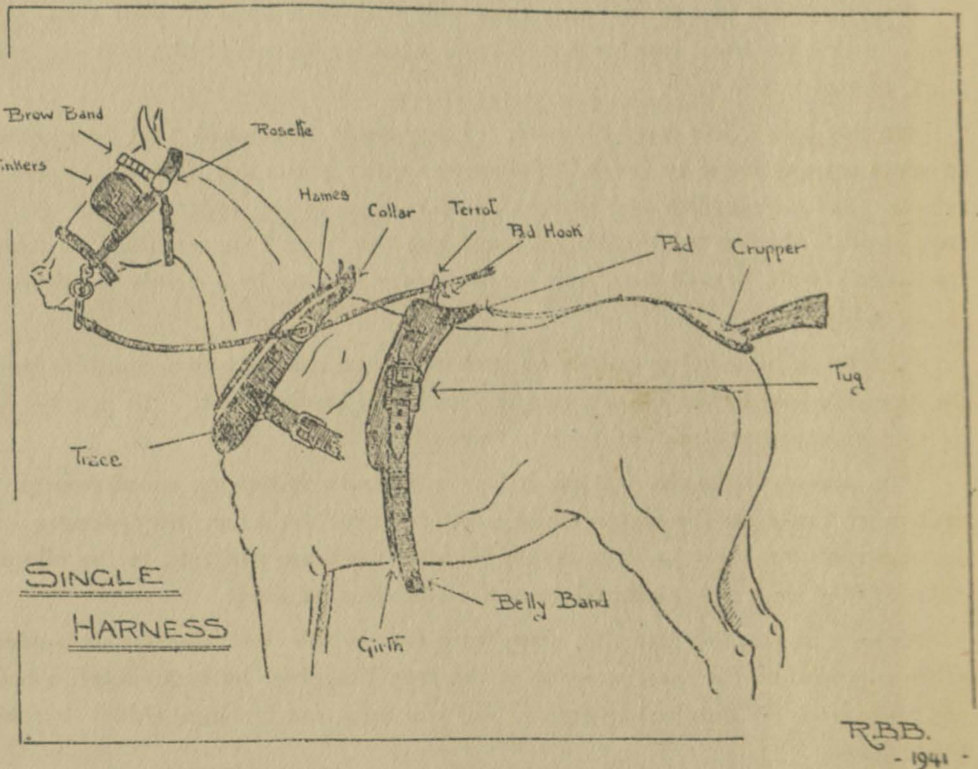
Tackle Required:

(*a*) As per stage (1), and

(*b*) A set of single harness.

By now your horse has learnt to turn freely and you must teach him to proceed along straight lines with occasional turns. At this period you commence

driving rather than longeing. There should be no difficulty about it. Drive the horse in front of you, walking behind him and occasionally turning him either to the near or off side. Practise this on lonely roads, turning him round corners and into gateways. Keep your orderly handy in case of trouble. Whilst doing this you must get him accustomed to the feel of the harness, remember that the harness is strange to him and he may not like it at first. Regarding the



harness, in order that you may understand what I am writing about, I have drawn a diagram naming the different parts of single harness that I am about to mention.

Place the bridle on him in the stable and let him stand in it. The winkers are new to him, but he will soon disregard them; next add the breast-collar and lastly the pad. The crupper may give some bother. A number of horses resent interference with their tails and start to kick when the crupper is put on. If your horse is like this, lay a rope loosely under the tail and tie the spare end to

the pad. Each day tighten the rope a little until the horse can bear it close to his dock without bothering about it. Once he reaches this stage you ought to be able to fix the crupper without further ado. Continue to place the harness on him progressively in the stable daily, for about four hours at a time, and let him stand in it.

Occasionally lead him about the yard and water and feed him with the harness on, and he will soon ignore it, but see that the traces are knotted up. Continue driving him along the road in long reins, but now, instead of using the saddle, substitute the single harness. The long reins can be passed through the loops of the tugs instead of through the stirrup irons. After a few days of this, pass the long reins through the terrots and, if all goes satisfactorily, you have finished with stage (2).

STAGE (3)

DRIVING THE HORSE BETWEEN BAMBOO SHAFTS USING LONG REINS

TACKLE REQUIRED:

(*a*) Long reins,

(*b*) A set of single harness,

(*c*) Bamboo shafts, and

(*d*) Longeing whip.

Get hold of two long and stout bamboos, each 12 feet in length. Join them together at one end by means of a cross-piece, one yard long. Pass these two long bamboos through the tugs and attach them to the tugs with a piece of string. Allow the cross-piece to rest on the ground well clear of the horse's hind legs. Now drive your horse along the road, making him drag the bamboos.

It is important that he should get used to the feel of the collar. This can be done by attaching two long ropes on to the trace buckles on either side of the breast collar. A syce should be detailed to walk behind you, holding the spare ends of these ropes in his hands.

On your orders he will exert pressure on the ropes and the horse will feel the weight of the collar on his chest. Work the pressure up gradually until the horse will proceed kindly, and at the same time drag behind him a considerable weight. You will often see tonga ponies in the bazaars refusing to move forward

in spite of beatings and pushings from behind. These tonga ponies are doing what is called "avoiding the collar," and the reason that they do this is because, should they move forward, galls or rubs underneath the collar will cause them a great deal of pain as soon as pressure is put upon them. You must not let your horse "avoid the collar;" it is a most irritating habit; therefore, you must not let him get collar-galls. Before putting pressure on the collar, rub salt and water into his chest for several days; this will harden the skin and should prevent rubs and galls.

STAGE (4)

INTRODUCING THE HORSE TO THE CART

TACKLE REQUIRED:

(*a*) A set of single harness,

(*b*) A cart of some description, and

(*c*) Whip.

Taking it that all has previously gone well, there should not be much difficulty in introducing the horse to the cart.

The preliminaries to this stage are important. The horse must get used to the sight of the cart and must not be frightened by it. As soon as you have got the horse accustomed to the feel of the harness, start a similar process of training with the cart.

Stand the cart in your yard near the stable in a place where the horse can see it. Lead him past it on his way to work or water, get him progressively nearer to it and then lead him round it, making him walk over the shafts. Eventually feed him out of it and tie him up to it for short periods.

By the time he has finished his breaking in bamboo shafts, he should also be familiar with the sight of the cart. When you feel that you are ready to put him between the shafts of the cart, adopt the following procedure. Direct the syces to push the cart about half a mile away from the stable along a road which is familiar to the horse.

Drive the horse in long reins up to the cart, and, when everything is ready, gently lower the shafts on to his back and run them through the tugs. Secure your traces. Whilst this is being done, the orderly must feed and make much of the horse.

Climb up into the cart and then give your aid "Walk on." The horse, whose head is towards the stable, should now proceed without any bother. Have your orderly handy but tell him to keep out of sight. Repeat this lesson twice

at the walk on consecutive days. When you are sure that the horse is ready, start driving away from home and next start trotting.

Well, that is all I propose to write about breaking a horse to harness at the moment. There are several other ways of doing the same thing, but this is the simplest. If you never let your horse "run before he can walk," you should have no difficulty.

I could tell you something about the various types of vehicles but there is no more room; as there are dog-carts, Ralli-cars, Tailbury's, Stanhopes and many other vehicles, all of which are suitable for single harness; however, I advise you to visit your uncle, who I know has some old conveyances stowed away in a godown behind the stable.

I hope that this may be of some use to you, and that if you do decide to drive, that you will get as much pleasure out of the sound of leather, buckles and hooves upon the hard high road as I do.

Yours Sincerely,
ARTHUR BROUGHAM.

A POINT OF LAW

FROM THE "CIVIL & MILITARY GAZETTE" OF 1896

Private

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 23rd May, 189—

My Dear Old Bodega,—At last luck has turned; my worthy old aunt is dead. She has left me a most excellent collection of shekels, which will enable me to view London town (with you, of course) in a manner I have always thought befitting.

It will not surprise you to learn that I have resolved to quit this beastly profession and this still more beastly country.

You have often, with that grasp of intellect which distinguishes you, laid down as a proof of the equity of Providence that promotion in rank is always compensated for by a corresponding diminution of brain, e.g., a lieutenant of fair intelligence develops into a dull captain, a stupid major, an imbecile colonel, and an idiotic general.

I am determined to part with no more of such intellect as I possess, and am therefore going; it is the manner of my going that may interest you.

I have, as you know, never distinguished myself in peace or in war (except by occasionally permitting myself to act with commonsense), and I feel it only right to clothe my departure at any rate with distinction.

To-morrow is the Queen's Birthday Parade.

I have provided myself with a false nose, exceedingly long and exceedingly red, adorned with two very lifelike warts.

Wearing this false nose, I intend to march past the General. I shall be careful not to put it on until the Battalion is formed up at the saluting base when, as Commander of the leading company with a Colonel far too flurried to notice anything, I shall be able to carry my project into execution without being subjected to the annoyance of previous argument on the question of propriety.

The General is an ass; the Colonel is an ass; and the Judge-Advocate is an ass, and I am curious to see what they will do.

I shall have to leave the service of course, possibly without my pension; but this, fortunately, is now a matter of complete indifference. I shall let you know the upshot.

Ever Yours,
R. CROSSE-GRAIN.

Confidential (Discipline)

May 24, 189—

[From the Officer Commanding, 2nd Bushwhackers, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Boggleywallah District.]

Sir,—I have the honour to report for the information of the Major-General Commanding that I have placed Major R. Crosse-Grain under arrest.

I have the honour to state that Major Grain admits that he wore a false nose on parade to-day. He maintains that he had a perfect right to do so, as the use of false noses on parade is nowhere prohibited in Army Regulations.

He also states that he used it as a convenient receptacle for the whistle which, he points out, is directed always to be carried, while no provision is made for its carriage in the existing uniform.

I can obtain no further explanation of his conduct from him.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
YOUR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,
A. CHUMP, LT.-COL.,
Com. 2nd Bushwhackers.

II

O. C. 2ND BUSHWHACKERS.

Has this officer ever suffered from sunstroke? Was he sober yesterday, and is he of temperate habits generally speaking?

Obtain medical evidence on these points.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR,
A. A. G., Boggleywallah District.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 25-5-9—

III

A. G. G.

Surgeon-Major Jobbs has interviewed Major Grain and states that in his opinion the prisoner is quite responsible for his actions.

His previous medical history does not point to sunstroke as having affected his mind.

Major Crosse-Grain has always been, to my own knowledge, strictly temperate.

A. CHUMP, LT.-COL.,
Comg. 2nd Bushwhackers.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 26-5-9—

IV

O. C. 2ND BUSHWHACKERS.

The G. O. C. cannot conceive any reason for Major Crosse-Grain's conduct other than that of temporary insanity. From sympathy with the prisoner's wife the Major-General is willing, on receipt of a written apology from Major Grain (provided also that he retires from the service) to overlook the matter.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR,
A. A. G.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 26-5-9—

V

A. A. G., BOGGLEYWALLAH DISTRICT.

Major Crosse-Grain firmly declines to offer any apology whatever, as he considers his conduct does not require any.

I must inform you that I consider any sympathy with Mrs. Grain thrown away, as that lady has been hysterical ever since witnessing the march past and cannot be induced to discuss the matter seriously.

A. CHUMP, LT.-COL.,
Comg. 2nd Bushwhackers.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 27-5-9—

VI

JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL, 20TH CIRCLE.

The G. O. C. requests you will be good enough to frame a charge against Major R. Crosse-Grain, 2nd Bushwhackers, based on the conduct described in the attached correspondence. Early compliance requested.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR,
A. A. G.

VII

A. A. G.

I consider a charge under Section 142, Army Act, viz., "False Personation" would be most suitable for the case. Charge Sheet in duplicate herewith.

C. GOBBLE, COL.,
Offg. J. A. G., 20th Circle.

VIII

J. A. G., 20TH CIRCLE.

The G. O. C. cannot imagine why you wish to charge Major Crosse-Grain under this section. Why not Section 16, viz., "Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman"?

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR.

IX

A. A. G.

There appeared to me to be legal difficulties in the way if a charge were made as suggested. Perhaps I was wrong. Charge in accordance with Section 16 in duplicate herewith.

C. GOBBLE, COL.,
Offg. J. A. G., 20th Circle.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 10-6-9—

X

A. A. G.

I have read the charge to the prisoner. He informs me that he will object to the charge inasmuch as he alleges that the false nose worn by him was not "unbecoming an officer or a gentleman;" indeed, that it becomes him more than his own. He has stated his intention of proving this to the satisfaction of the Court by ocular demonstration.

As a defence of this nature might tend to be somewhat ludicrous, I would respectfully suggest trial under another section of the Army Act, viz., Section 40, "Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

A. CHUMP, LT.-COL.,
Comg. 2nd Bushwhackers.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 11-6-9—

XI

J. A. G., 20TH CIRCLE.

For opinion.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR,
A. A. G.

BOGGLEYWALLAH, 11-6-9—

XII

A. A. G.

It is regrettable that there is no section in the Army Act dealing specifically with acts of this nature. Having regard to the nature of the parade, I am in some doubt as to whether the charge should not be preferred under Section 35, as treason.

I am afraid I could not advise trial under Section 40, unless there is some evidence to show that the wearing of a false nose by the prisoner produced effects injurious to good order and military discipline.

Did any of the soldiers show by their conduct that this was the case?

C. GOBBLE, Col.,
Offg. J. A. G., 20th Circle.

Boggleywallah, 20-6-9—

XIII

O. C. 2nd Bushwhackers.

The G. O. C. distinctly heard and saw men in Major Crosse-Grain's Company laughing.

Can you obtain any other evidence in support of this amongst the N. C. O.s or men?

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, Major,
A. A. G.

Boggleywallah, 20-8-9—

XIV

A. A. G.

Upon enquiry I find it would be undesirable to seek evidence in this direction.

Major Crosse-Grain, though unpopular with the senior officers, is undoubtedly extremely popular with the younger officers of the Regiment and the men. There is a feeling, I find, amongst the men, that their laughter is the principal cause of Major Crosse-Grain's trouble.

I have reason to believe that, if called upon to give evidence, the men will state that the cause of their laughter was the conduct of the G. O. C.'s charger at the moment the Company marched past.

A. CRUMP, Lt.-Col.,
Comg. 2nd Bushwhackers.

22-6-9—.

XV

J. A. G., 20TH CIRCLE.

Please frame a charge against Major Crosse-Grain under Section 40, Army Act.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR,
A. A. G.

22-6-9—.

XVI

A. A. G.

Charge, in duplicate, herewith.

C. GOBBLE, COL.,
Offg. J. A. G.

2-7-9—.

XVII

A. A. G.

I have read the charge to Major Crosse-Grain. He states that he is prepared to meet it. He desires me to inform you that he will call upon the G. O. C. as a witness for the defence. He intends to prove that the G. O. C. was wearing a set of false teeth, or at all events some false teeth, on the parade of the 23rd May and that the G. O. C. constantly wears false teeth on and off duty. He also intends to call evidence to show that a Staff Officer in Badbonuggar is allowed to wear a glass eye without question. I presume the prisoner is within his rights.

A. CRUMP, LT.-COL.,
Comg. 2nd Bushwhackers.

3-7-9—.

XVIII

O. C. 2ND BUSHWHACKERS.

If Major Crosse-Grain will send in his papers, the G. O. C. is willing to overlook the conduct of that officer, and will dispense with further action.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, MAJOR,
A. A. G.

XIX

A. A. G.

Major Crosse-Grain consents to send in his papers upon being granted leave of absence from this date pending retirement, and upon being furnished with a copy of the correspondence in the case.

A. CRUMP, Lt.-Col.,
Comg. 2nd Bushwhackers.

Boggleywallah, 4-7-9—.

XX

O. C. 2nd Bushwhackers.

Leave granted. Correspondence (original) herewith.

B. O.,
B. SNOOKS, Major,
A. A. G.

Boggleywallah, 4-7-9—.

PAOLO DI AVITABILE

GENERAL OF THE KHALSA AND CIVIL GOVERNOR

By CHARLES GREY

THOUGH some of that multitude of European military adventurers who served Indian Emperors, Kings, Princes and Rulers from the early 17th Century to the penultimate mid-decade of the 19th attained far greater fame, power and wealth than this able and ruthless Italian, of whose rule grim legends still linger in the folklore of the Peshawar Valley, none show so complex and intriguing a personality.

Fortunately for the memoirist, the use of Peshawar from 1838 to 1842 as an advanced base for operations in Afghanistan brought Avitabile into intimate contact with many British officers and civil officials who have left such vivid pen-pictures of himself, his mentality and methods of government that we are able to present a truthful account of his rule at Peshawar and, from other sources, to complete the history of this extraordinary man.

Of his complexity, here follows ample testimony from those prominent in the affairs on the Frontier at that period. We first quote Henry Lawrence:

> "I have eaten Avitabile's salt and may not write harshly of him. He was a unique individual. Strangely influencing others, and influenced by them, he was a remarkable man whose history will hardly be credited by other generations when his own has passed away. Let posterity judge him on what is written."

Here is other evidence from contemporary sources:

In his favour:

> "The mildest of men, frank, gay, good-humoured, scrupulously just, a skilful and considerate officer, a fine soldier, an impartial judge, a strong and resolute man and a perfect Solomon of judgment."

Now the reverse:

> "A perfect monster of cruelty who, to the already long list of Asiatic tortures, has added European refinements; revengeful and passionate, unscrupulous in gratifying his lusts, rapacious in exacting unlawful gains, hanging, torturing and mutilating for a whim, unmerciful and unforgiving, an immoderate drinker and a scoffer at everything sacred and divine."

Truly formidable and contradictory lists! Which is to be credited this narrative will show. Thus premising, we take up Avitabile's antecedents and career before entering the service of the Khalsa, then ruled by Maharaja Ranjit

Singh. The fifth son of a peasant, he was born at Agerola near Naples in October, 1791, and, at the age of 16, conscripted into the local Militia from which he passed into the regular artillery two years later. In this he served for six years, seeing service at the Siege of Gaeta where he was severely wounded and promoted to the rank of lieutenant for distinguished conduct in the trenches.

On the reduction of the army in 1818, Avitabile was transferred to the half-pay list of the Militia, from which he resigned to take up a trading career in the Mediterranean.

In October, 1819, his ship was wrecked off Marseilles and there he met other ex-Bonapartist officers who, after the fall of Napoleon, had sought and found service in Asiatic armies. He was advised to try his fortunes in the army of Abbas Mirza of Persia and this he did. A little later he was deputed to raise and discipline (train) a body of Kurdish Irregulars, with which to subjugate that province and extract due revenue from it. He did this so well that he was rewarded with the rank of colonel and two Persian decorations, besides the Governorship of the province.

Five years later, British influence became paramount and, there being no further prospects and even what he held having become precarious, Avitabile resigned and returned to Naples, with some idea of being re-employed in the army. There being no chance of this, he decided to try for service with Ranjit Singh in whose army there were already an Italian and a Frenchman, both ex-officers of the French Army. Receiving an encouraging reply from these, he set out overland in March 1826, and, travelling by way of Herat, Kandahar and Kabul, reached Lahore in December, bringing with him another former French officer named Court, whom he had picked up at Tehran and induced to quit the Persian service.

After some delay and exhaustive tests in the usual manner of the Maharaja, both were given battalion commands and, later, brigades of three battalions each. Avitabile's brigade was employed at the Battle of Nowshera, against the Afghans in 1829 and again at the taking of Peshawar in 1832 and of Balakot in 1833, this being its only active service until the First Sikh War, after Avitabile's departure. It was uniformed in red jackets with green facings, white trousers of English pattern, yellow *pagris,* black belts and pouches and armed with muskets and bayonets.

It did not take many years for an astute judge of men like Ranjit Singh to discover that Avitabile's talents lay in governing and reducing to order turbulent districts and in this he may have been influenced by the Kurdistan record,


Genl Avitabile
(late Governor of Peshawur)

adroitly conveyed in casual conversation. So after the 1829 campaign he promoted Avitabile to a salary of Rs. 2,500 a month and made him Governor of Wazirabad. He still retained the brigade command and took his troops with him wherever he went. As Peshawar had not yet fallen into Ranjit Singh's hands, Wazirabad ranked first amongst the worst districts in the Punjab, murder, theft and non-payment of revenues (the most heinous of all crimes) being rife.

How he ruled and what he effected is described by Reynell-Taylor, the British officer deputed to investigate the Punjab systems after the First Sikh War:

> "By his own peculiar methods, Avitabile quickly reduced the district and town of Wazirabad to order. He hanged for theft and it soon became a crime of the past. He guarded the interests of the farmer and small trader and they characterise his rule as wise and just. He introduced a regular settlement, fixing what was to be paid by each person, and had account books kept in every village in which were entered the exact amounts paid, and signed by both parties at the time of payment. All these books he checked at intervals."

A more personal glimpse is given by a traveller named Wolff, who visited the Punjab in 1832:

> "At Wazirabad I took up my abode with the famous General Avitabile, a Neapolitan by birth who speaks French, Persian, Punjabi and Hindustani with equal facility. He has remarkably improved the city of Wazirabad by widening the streets and having them kept scrupulously clean. He was a cheerful, clever man, full of fun. He took me to his bedroom to show his guardian angels which were pictures of dancing girls, mostly unclothed. . . . One day when we were riding out on his elephant, he said, "I will now show you what kind of civilisation I have introduced into the country—which I found to be gibbets on which hung a great number of malefactors. Though usually jesting, whenever he turned his mind to matters of importance he became wise and far-sighted. He told me that he had amassed a fortune of £50,000 and said, "For God's sake, Wolff, help me to get out of the country."

Another story of his methods is related by Baron Hugel, a visitor:

> "Avitabile feared the Maharaja as little as anyone else. On one occasion when six Akali robbers were sent to him for safe custody, he had them hanged out of hand and, when called to account for having executed such holy men, replied that no holy men could be thieves and that

he had taken the best way of preventing their escape. The Maharaja was nonplussed at the answer but finally laughed, and said no more."

Just as impartially did he hang others, among them being two Mussalman butchers who had slaughtered a cow. He himself had eaten some of the beef, but he remarked that they had first broken the law against cow-killing and, as the animal was dead, there could be no harm in eating some of the flesh.

In April, 1835, Avitabile was appointed to reduce the town and province of Peshawar to order, a task in which two Sikh governors had already failed. Here murder, assassination, theft and outrage ran rampant and a district that should have turned in 10 lakhs of revenue did not produce two. None dared move except in armed parties, for the place was an Alsatia for the ruthless and savage Khyberis whose livelihood was robbery and whose pleasure was murder. Such men could only be ruled and quelled by a man even more callous than themselves, having power and using it mercilessly. How he exercised that power will be described by himself and others. He said:

"When I marched for Peshawar, I sent in advance a number of men with wooden posts and orders to erect them all around the city walls. The Peshawaris scoffed at the posts and laughed still louder when my men laid coils of rope and planks at the foot of the posts. Guns and swords, said they, were the weapons with which to rule the city and not sticks and ropes. However, when all my preparations were made, they woke up one morning to find the posts turned into gibbets from which dangled fifty of the worst malefactors in Peshawar. And this I continued till brigands and murderers became scarce. From those who bore false witness, I cut out the tongues; and then a man appeared who professed to restore speech, so I had his tongue also cut out."

Major Mackinnon, who visited Peshawar in 1840, wrote:

"The Government of General Avitabile is very severe certainly, but it has reduced this savage place to more order and subjection than ever yet known. I saw numerous examples of his methods all around the city walls. On the high palm trees on every side hung frail and wasted specimens of humanity strung on beams nailed to the blighted palms. Those most favoured by the kites and vultures were the new-comers, and these birds screamed long life to General Avitabile as they tore at the bodies, answered by the rattling of the dried bones of the numerous well-picked skeletons.



NAJIB or MUSALMAN SEPOY, 1838.

"Some were strung neck and heels alternatively, and some had been skinned alive, commencing from the feet upwards. One pair of trees was specially reserved for human fragments, noses, ears, hands and feet being displayed on boards nailed across them. . . . I dined with Avitabile that night, but the sight had so haunted me that I could hardly persuade myself that I was not contemplating delicacies carved from a skinned criminal."

Other punishments inflicted by Avitabile on those who would not or could not pay his fines, were stripping naked and pouring cold water over the victims during a bitter Peshawar night; and tying a batch together and building a wall around them, adding a course every day till they paid up. On one such occasion the men held out for six days, during the last two of which they held up the rotting body of one who had died on the fourth day. Worst of all was a case reported by the political assistant: "A man had killed another. To obtain the price of blood, Avitabile kept him prisoner for some time and finally exposed him stark naked on an ant-heap. When even this had failed to obtain compliance, he permitted the mother of the murdered man to exercise her right of slaughtering the murderer with the same knife. But enough of horrors. Here is a description of Avitabile as he appeared in 1839:

"He is a tall, stout man with an aquiline nose and a long grey beard half-way down his chest. His costume consisted of a long green velvet coat, profusely ornamented with gold lace and having three rows of large gold buttons down the front, trousers of scarlet cloth with broad bands of gold lace down the seams, a green velvet cap with a gold lace band and tassel of gold cord and shoes of red morocco. Slung to a wide and heavily gold-embroidered belt by gold chains was a very handsome sword in a green velvet scabbard, so heavily ornamented with gold and jewels that very little of the velvet was visible. The sword had cost Rs. 5,000 and the scabbard another Rs. 1,000, making it a rather expensive weapon."

We now take up the detail of what was done in the matter of government. Just as at Wazirabad, he made a regular settlement, establishing a just and equitable system of revenue payments and directing how they were to be collected. He introduced a system of village *chowkidari* and city police and courts wherein law and justice were administered by a jury composed of two *Kazis,* two Hindus and two Sikhs, himself presiding over the Chief Court. He built a chain of watch-towers along the frontier to check raids and formed a sort of Khyber

Militia called the Doolasdari, the head of which, Kalandhar Khan, held his *jagir* by a *yearly tribute of* 50 *Wazir heads,* a fact vouched for in a letter from the Political Agent in April, 1839.

The general results of his administration were that the district in general enjoyed a peace and security never before known. Raids and kidnappings ceased, armed robberies were very few and the revenue so increased that for the first time the district was not only self-supporting but remitted money to Lahore. To the British his presence—and the respect and terror his rule had established—was particularly useful between 1838 and 1842. The Tripartite Treaty between Ranjit Singh, Shah Shuja' and the British which gave the right of British transit across the Punjab and a base at Peshawar, was particularly obnoxious to the Sikhs, who saw in it the beginning of the end of their independence.

British convoys of stores and treasure were attacked and looted, officials insulted, abused and derided even when escorted, and open attacks made on store godowns in Peshawar. Not only that: had it not been for Avitabile and his own trusted brigade, the British troops filtering up and down in small bodies would have been attacked. Matters were bad enough up to 1840 but they became almost worse when the anarchy which prevailed from that year until 1846 broke out and the troops took control.

It should be understood that the predisposing cause of this anarchy was the discontent of the troops at the manner in which their pay was kept long in arrears and, when paid, "cut" on the slightest pretext. Nominally the pay of the Khalsa was slightly higher than that of the Company sepoy. But, while the one was paid regularly and in full, the other was always in heavy arrears, the legal six months being invariably extended by many months. Even when instalments were doled out these were not only cut by the higher authorities but were the object of peculation by the pay staff and officers disbursing the money. The resulting smouldering spark of discontent, when fanned to a flame by the bribes and intrigues of rival claimants to the throne of the Punjab, spread till it destroyed every pay clerk the men could get hold of and many of the peccant officers, European and Punjabi; even the Governor of Kashmir (one of the worst) was cut down in Darbar and thrown into the flames of the burning building.

Naturally, the anarchy spread to Peshawar but not to Avitabile's own brigade, which had always been regularly and properly paid. Those affected were the extra troops from Lahore and even these were long held in subjection by the terror of Avitabile himself and his brigade and, in particular, by the Afghan garrison of the big fort in which Avitabile lived, never moving out without a



Sikh Sepoy



Maharaja Ranjit Singh on Horseback, 1830

personal guard of fifty Khyberis, all criminals under suspended sentences and all devoted to him, though he had executed many of their kindred.

However, by May, 1841, the extra battalions at Peshawar had caught the infection and determined to brave even Avitabile. One of the battalions of Najibs, when called up for payment, refused to agree to the deductions and was paid in full, the Governor not yet having made his dispositions. On the 8th, a Sikh battalion lately from Kashmir came for payment and, after refusing to agree to any deductions despite threats from the General, was eventually paid their full amounts of Rs. 80 per man (about 12 months' pay). They then demanded the repayment of previous deductions and on the refusal of their demand went off to their Cantonment some five miles from Peshawar, threatening to return next day and enforce their demands.

But that night they were attacked by the *Oolasdari* Militia, which had been promised the plunder of the Sikh camp and all the money found on the men. Eventually, after a stubborn fight in which many on both sides were killed, the Sikh battalion surrendered on a promise that their lives would be spared. Deprived of all their money, they started off back to Lahore, but they never reached their destination, all being drowned in the great Indus flood of June, 1841, which caught the battalion encamped on its left bank at Attock.

By April, 1843, the British operations were all completed and the place quiet enough, so Avitabile was at last permitted his long-deferred departure. He had already secured his fortune by lending large sums to the British Government and to individual officers, taking in exchange bills on India duly remitted to London. After visiting Simla, Calcutta, Naples, Paris and London, at all of which he was received honourably and at some awarded presents and decorations, he returned to his home. It was not long before his peculiar habits, particularly in connection with the village women, made him obnoxious wherever he settled. So at last he returned to Agerola and there, on a high cliff overhanging the village, commenced the building of a castle, in which, even before it was completed, he took up his abode. He insisted on being alone during the night, the few servants he kept being all sent down to the village after the evening meal, as he feared death by treachery.

His end was mysterious. On the morning of the 28th of March, 1850, the first of the servants to arrive found Avitabile dying in agony, muttering that he had been poisoned. He died two hours later either from stomach poisoning or from the fumes of a charcoal brazier with which the room had been warmed. Nothing definite was discovered, the matter being hushed up, but it was generally

thought that he had been poisoned at the instance of the lover of his wife. She was his niece, a girl of 19, whom he had married by dispensation from the Pope in order to keep his money in the family. She had run away from him a month after marriage, and her lover, the village lawyer, had been heard to threaten vengeance for Avitabile's treatment of the girl.

After his death a swarm of litigants descended on the estate with the result that the vast fortune Avitabile had brought home with him was all dissipated in legal proceedings. So ended a man whose merits as a governor and administrator were far outweighed by the many cruelties he had perpetrated under a wantonly-misused power.

"The wheels of God grind slowly,
But they grind exceeding small."



CUIRASSIER, ALLARD'S CAVALRY, 1838.

"....KABHI SUKH, KABHI DUKH, SIRKAR KA NAUKAR"

By "QUINK"

On a cold January morning in 1924, in a Station in the N.-W.F.P., a somewhat shrivelled-looking individual with white hair and clad only in a cotton loin-cloth and shirt, was shepherded into the battalion office by the Subedar-Major. The appearance of this individual at the office caused a good deal of comment and speculation. It was understood that he was a pensioner with a request to make; though his form of dress was somewhat unusual for pensioners of a regiment whose recruiting area is restricted to certain districts of the Punjab. No further information as to the identity of the pensioner, or the nature of his request, was forthcoming at this juncture.

In due course, the queerly-attired one was produced before the Commandant. A dialogue, somewhat as follows, then took place:

Commandant: What do you want?

Queerly-attired one: A pension.

Commandant: What service have you done?

Queerly-attired one: Nearly 38 years.

Commandant: Where was this long service done?

Queerly-attired one: First of all in this battalion.

Commandant: What is your name?

Queerly-attired one: Bhagtu.

Commandant (to Adjt.): Send for the Long Roll and look him up. (Long Roll is produced which shows, beyond doubt, that the queerly-attired one joined in 1887 and was discharged in 1906. Reason not very clear and no pension recorded.)

Commandant: You served 19 years in the battalion and then left the service. Where did you put in the other half of your Government service for pension?

Queerly-attired one: In the Andaman Islands.

[Considerable and varied reactions amongst all present, including office orderlies listening-in.]

The antecedents of Bhagtu were then enquired into in detail. It transpired that he had risen to the rank of Naik, and was a useful N. C. O. One day in 1906, he had come before his Company Commander with a request for urgent leave on the grounds that there were certain urgent family affairs to be settled in

his home. This leave was granted, and Bhagtu set forth for his home, never to return to the battalion until the cold winter day in 1924.

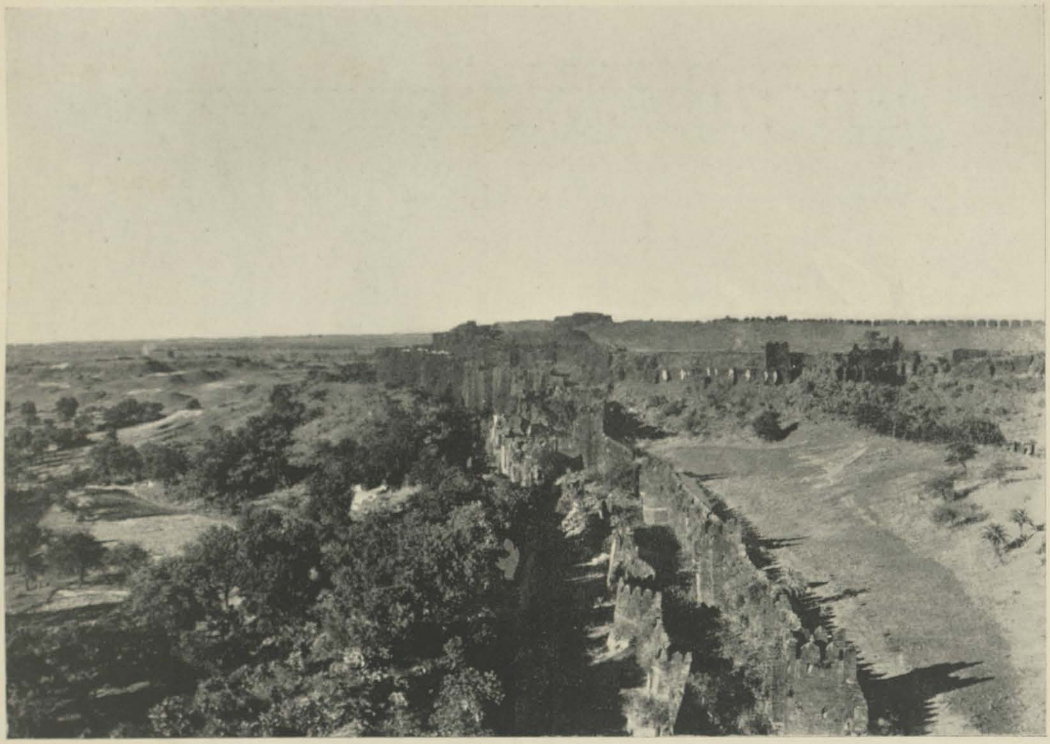
The urgent reasons which caused his application for leave were the elopement of his wife with a man in his village, and the necessity of dealing with this emergency as promptly as possible.

Bhagtu settled the matter most expeditiously by killing both the other man and his wife. He was shortly after arraigned by the civil authorities on what was considered a very unfair charge by the battalion; that of murder, and, in spite of the engagement of a brilliant pleader on a fee of Rs. 500 (subscribed for by the battalion) Bhagtu was awarded a sentence of transportation for life.

Good behaviour in the Andamans earned for Bhagtu a remission of sentence which enabled him to appear before the Commandant after nearly 19 years overseas, and thus completing nearly 38 years' Government service which, as he had correctly explained, was spent just about half and half in the battalion and the Andamans.

He got a pension. It was a temporary one of Rs. 4 p.m. from the Battalion Widows' Fund. Further investigation of his case through the Deputy Commissioner of his District, showed that he had ample family lands and could support himself. After a time, therefore, the pension was stopped.

Bhagtu was still alive when last heard of about a year ago. In fact he attended a battalion gathering of pensioners. He was beginning both to look and feel his age, but was otherwise in good form. Since his visit to the battalion on return from his trip overseas, he has acquired quite a reputation for possessing a shrewd brain. Probably because he, as a man, was able to extract a pension from a fund intended entirely for widows.

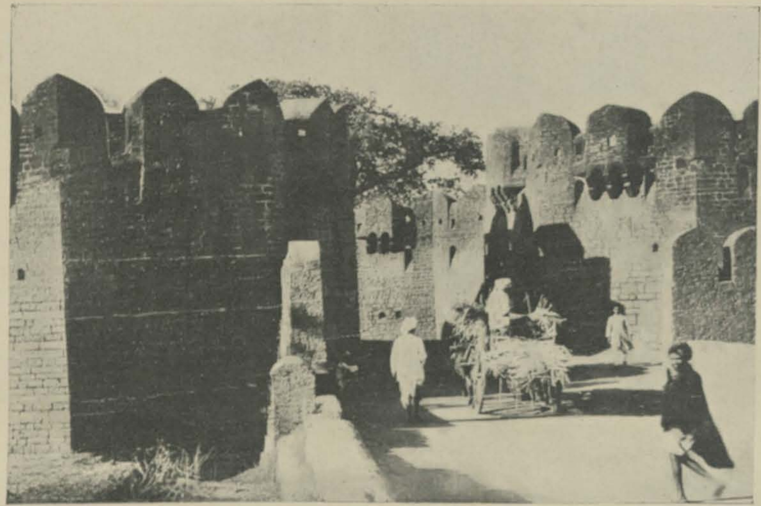


THE PURANA KILA

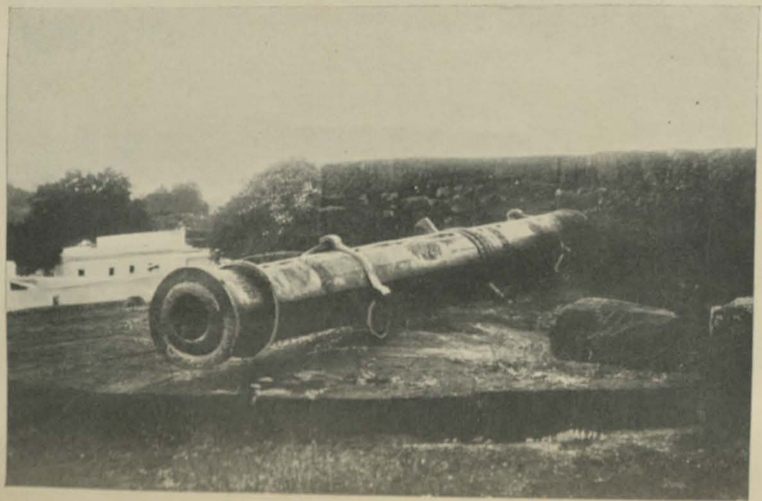


THE ENTRANCE TO THE FORT

BIDAR



FATEH GATE, BIDAR CITY





OLD CANNON IN THE FORT

THE STORY OF BIDAR AND ITS MONUMENTS

[COMPILED FROM NOTES BY MR. GHULAM YAZDANI, M.A., O.B.E., DIRECTOR OF ARCHÆOLOGY, H. E. H. THE NIZAM'S GOVERNMENT, HYDERABAD-DECCAN.]

THE town of Bidar is 82 miles from Hyderabad, and is picturesquely built on the edge of an elevated plateau 2,330 feet above the sea. The region around the town has had a glorious past, and contains numerous relics of its palmy days, in the shape of fortifications, mosques and palaces. Though once it was a two-day trek by pony tonga, nowadays it can be reached in a few hours by railway or motor car. Its physical features include many charming springs which are of perennial flow. The place is also famous for its rich variety of vegetable produce, fruits, vines and grains of all kinds. A peculiar feature of Bidar is the abundance of monkeys of the *langur* variety, with jet-black faces, long tails and grey hair all over their bodies.

The history of Bidar prior to the 14th Century is veiled in obscurity. Legends associate the place with the ancient town of Vidarbha, and it appears to have played a prominent part in the days of the Eastern Chalukyas. The Kakatiya kings of Warrangal are credited with having built a big fort and other monuments at this place in the 13th Century. It is, however, known for a fact that the town was captured in 1321, by Mohammad-bin-Tughlak. The turning point in the history of Bidar came when Prince Ahmed repulsed an attack led by two slave generals and, shortly after his accession, transferred the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar in 1429. This led to an intensive programme of building, including the construction of a huge fort defended by a triple moat. The external circumference of this fort is 2½ miles, and it is provided with 37 bastions and seven gates, some of which are mounted with cannons. The king himself ordered the construction of a palace, which contained a magnificent audience hall, wherein the celebrated turquoise throne of the Bahmani kings was placed. The example of the king was followed by other nobles, who also built their residences in various parts of Bidar. The extensive military campaigns of Ahmad Shah Wali resulted in the flow of a vast amount of wealth into Bidar, and the city soon became a great centre for culture and progress.

Ahmad Shah died in A.D. 1436. His son, Alauddin, built a lofty dome over his tomb, which is famous for its beauty and the elegance of its decorative paintings. To Alauddin goes also the credit of having built a large and well endowed hospital, staffed with expert Muslim and Hindu physicians. In the days of

Mohammad Gawan, a famous college, with a unique style of architecture, was constructed. In this college professors and theologians from various countries of the East were employed, and it was stocked with a rare collection of manuscripts. Mohammad Shah also built several buildings at Bidar, the most famous of which is the *Shah Burj* or the Royal Bastion.

On the dissolution of the Bahmini Kingdom, the Barid Shahis ruled Bidar from 1492 to 1609. The chief monuments of this period are their tombs which are of great splendour and rival those of Golconda.

The next phase saw the decline of Bidar into a small principality, and in 1619, its inclusion in the kingdom of Adil Shahis. Thirty-seven years later, in 1656, Aurangzeb, after a siege lasting 27 days, made a victorious entry into the fort. The city yielded to the Moguls an enormous booty, estimated at 12 lakhs of rupees in cash, ammunition worth eight lakhs and, in addition, 230 guns. Thereafter, until 1749, when Asaf Jah declared his independence, the town of Bidar remained under the Moguls, and was ruled by Governors appointed by the Imperial Court at Delhi.

In the year 1773 Bidar was the scene of a battle, which lasted for 20 days, between the armies of Nizam Ali Khan and those of Raghoba, who had invaded Hyderabad to collect *chauth*. In subsequent years Bidar's importance declined, especially after 1846, when the system of administration through military officers was abolished. Bidar's industries fell into decay, and its beautiful palaces, mosques and other public buildings, which were once the envy of the great cities of India, became a mass of débris.

An era of prosperity returned, however, with the reign of the present sovereign, H. E. H. Sir Mir Osman Ali Khan Bahadur. Bidar is already linked up with Hyderabad by Railway. A network of schools has been established to promote literacy, and co-operative societies have been started to improve the lot of the urban population. A development scheme for the town has been sanctioned, and a renovation of all important monuments taken in hand, so as to foster a spirit of pride amongst the people.

GENERAL SIR SAM BROWNE, V.C., G.C.B., K.C.S.I.

(Extracts from his Journal from 1840 to 1878)

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1840

I was "sworn in" at the India Office, Leadenhall Street, in October, 1840, just when I was sixteen. I embarked on board a new Barque, "The Worcester," 500 Tons, Captain Waugh, at Portsmouth on 20th December. Bad weather drove us into Portland or Plymouth (I forget which) whence we continued the voyage. My commission was dated from 22nd December, 1840.

February, 1841

Just before we arrived at "The Cape," nearly all the crew mutinied, and we had a scuffle with them, a rough tussle which ended in the most mutinous being put in irons along the deck. When we got to "The Cape," we were delayed some days in consequence until the arrival of a man-of-war with Admiral Elliott, to whom matters were submitted. A few were punished, but we sailed with a few in irons who were starved into promise of good behaviour: but the ship had to be worked with the aid of the passengers.

We stopped some 3 or 4 days at Madras, where we landed some passengers, and eventually reached Calcutta on 24th May—"The Queen's" Birthday—having been just over 5 months on the voyage.

Some time in June I left on a river Steamer for Allahabad, where I remained two or three days with Richard Lawrence of 73rd N.I., and continued my journey thence by "Palkee Dak" to Delhi to join the 46th Regiment N.I. to which I had been posted, arriving there in end of July. Here I had a home at my sister's, Lady Metcalfe, the wife of the "Resident of Delhi," and commenced my drill at once.

October 1841

We were "told off" to join the force going to Cabul, but in consequence of the terrible sickness at that time prevailing the order was countermanded and we were ordered down country to Benares.

1842

We reached Benares about 15th December and were all housed by Xmas. The Regiment had a first-rate Mess and Band and lived rather fast.

1843

At Barrackpoor the snipe shooting was superb. I have fired away a bag of shot at them during the day. I say nothing of the bag.

1844

In January, 1844, we marched to Berhampoor. We were the only Regiment at Berhampoor. Some years before a British Regiment usually quartered there having been withdrawn, leaving unutilised the finest Barracks in India.

The life at Berhampoor was a most enjoyable one. The planters—a most hospitable and cheery set—ready to join in anything and a most hearty welcome when you visited them.

Close to our lines was a fine *jheel* which from beginning of August was a mass of snipe and a good many Cotton Teal. Dr. Young (Fagan) and myself were there every day and all day—bags were grand. We were accounted as "dead men," exposing ourselves as we did day after day from 10 A.M. till 5 P.M. in a swamp. No one else attempted it.

1845

In beginning of 1845 we got orders for Lucknow, which we reached in beginning of March.

In the meantime, October, 1844, I had got my Lieutenancy very unexpectedly, Captain Allcock on Staff employ being murdered near Agra by dacoits who were on the look-out for the Magistrate.

The King of Oude occasionally gave grand entertainments to which we were invited. A specially grand one, on the occasion of Prince Waldemar of Prussia. At these entertainments there were animal fights of all descriptions—Elephants, Rhinoceros, Tigers, Buffaloes, Camels, Antelope, etc.

The King of Oude's troops on one occasion mutinied, and the whole force in Murrion was ordered out to attack them just outside the City. When we were forming for attack they "caved in."

Towards end of 1845 I was offered and accepted the Adjutancy of the Regiment.

In October, 1846, we were ordered to Jullundur—a very nice place.

1847

In January, 1847, I joined the Camp of The Governor-General, Sir H. Hardinge, at Bhyrowal on the Beas to witness the signing of The Treaty with the Sikhs. A large force assembled under the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Hugh Gough, afterwards Lord Gough. The five brothers (Lawrences)—viz., Alexander, Henry, George, John and Richard, were in the camp. I mention this, as the old Sikhs said then, that there was a prophecy amongst them that when 5 (Punj) Brothers were brought together to assist in a council against the

Punjab power it foretold the downfall of that Kingdom—only too true as two years later The Punjab was annexed.

In July, 1847, I obtained 30 days' leave and went to Kussowlie to visit my brother Clem, who was then Deputy Commissioner at Amballa and had his office for a time at Kussowlie. My sister Charlotte (Lady George Lawrence) was then in Camp at Sunawar looking after the children of the future "Lawrence Asylum." She was then superintending the building and looking after all the details of the work and working it herself.

At the end of the year we were ordered to march to Lahore—on arrival were quartered in the City, along the old Ramparts. Some of the officers got a room each with Bathroom, in a new Barrack.

1848

Henry Lawrence was at this time "The Resident of Lahore." John Lawrence was Commissioner of the "Jullundur Doab." George Lawrence was appointed to Peshawar as Political Officer, to which place my sister Charlotte accompanied him. I spent many a day at The Residency. One evening sitting in a Room there before dinner, an officer came in and we entered into conversation on Military matters, when he remarked with reference to the Military executions for the acts of gross insubordination then being carried out, that he "would be damned first before he would let his own Regiment shoot the comrades in his own Regiment." Shortly after I was introduced to him—our new Brigadier—Colonel Colin Campbell.*

August 1848

Matters in the Punjab were now looking serious. Sirdar Chuttar Singh and his son Shere Singh with a large force had broken out in open insurrection in Huzara.

Attempts were made to seduce the allegiance of the Native Troops at Lahore, but Harry Lumsden and the small body of Guides scented out the whole affair and the instigators were caught and hanged.

A small force of the enemy approached so close to Lahore as to set fire to the Bridge of Boats over the Ravee.

Orders were now issued for The Army, and Troops began gradually to arrive near Lahore from down Country. In beginning of November we received our orders—and with 36th N. I. marched from Lahore and concentrated some 10 miles from Ramnuggur.

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* Field-Marshal Lord Clyde.

Ramnuggur, 22nd November, 1848

After a stay of some days we received orders late at night to march at once, and by day-break we were drawn up about ½ mile from Ramnuggur with 14th Dragoons on our right. Lord Gough and staff with our Brigadier Colin Campbell then appeared on the scene.

After a time Colonel Havelock, 14th Dragoons, galloped down to us from the front, where he had accompanied the Staff, shouting "Advance, Advance." We shouldered and prepared to move, but he called out "No, No: only H.M. 14th." They went on and we (the Infantry) followed. As we passed the Tower from which The Chief had been reconnoitring we could see the sand raised as the 14th were charging a body of the enemy who had crossed to our side of the River "Chenab." Some Horse Artillery followed the 14th. As we got nearer the scene on the lower ground—the dry bed of the River—we saw the Dragoons had wheeled to their right and some of our Guns were in difficulties having got into a quicksand. The enemy were kicking up a heavy fire from their heavy Guns in the opposite bank. We were ordered to halt just when we had got within range. Our 3 Guns were immovably fixed and had to be abandoned.

After this we fell back out of range where, during the afternoon, we were joined by the remainder of the force, and we bivouacked "where we were" round log fires.

1849

On the 12th January we moved to Dingee.

Goojrat, 21st February, 1849

We marched about sunrise from Dingee on this eventful day. Towards noon, or perhaps a little later, we found a small body of the enemy occupying a mound from which they were driven off by our Division. Our Brigadier "Hoggans" on the advance to the mound, supported our right Brigade, and I recollect how much we were all struck with the appearance of that strong Regiment, the 24th Foot in line in the new dress—french grey Trowsers and Albert Chakos.

We changed front and deployed—piled arms. Suddenly, shortly afterwards, Guns opened fire, and we found the enemy in front of us. Speke, the African Traveller, of my Regiment, had clambered up a tree and called out to me. There were "no end of men in our front."

We were the extreme left of the Infantry, but on our left again a Cavalry Force, 3rd Dragoons, and some other Regiments. We soon got the order to advance, but those on the right were engaged before us. The thick cover much impeded us and broke our line at one time when we were halted to reform. The

enemy were in our rear (Cavalry) and we had to face about and drive them off. We continued our advance firing, when we suddenly became aware of a mishap on our right and got orders for the centre Regiment of our Brigade, 61st Foot and ourselves to change front half right. This disaster in the right Brigade of our Division occurred to the 24th Foot, which Regiment was frightfully cut up. The right Regiment of our Brigade, 36th N. I., was heavily attacked, the right wing giving away owing to this. The 61st Foot and my Regiment was ordered to change half front to the right, to take the enemy in flank. By this time the Sikhs were checked. The right flank Companies of the 61st having wheeled quickly and pouring in a heavy fire. When we got round a Sikh Battalion marched across our front in ¼ or close Column within 100 yards. We fired and 61st also as hard as we could, but they moved as on Parade, never hurrying. It was a grand sight, and my admiration of the sturdy, plucky character of a Sikh was formed from that occurrence.

But matters further on the extreme right of our line had been very disastrous. The Cavalry Brigade there, on meeting the enemy, retired in disorder. The 14th Dragoons and a Squadron 9th Lancers made a dash to the rear, riding thro' and over our General Hospital. The 6th Bengal Cavalry, one of the Regiments in the Brigade, held their ground for some time afterwards, but they at last went off. The result being that Christie's Troop of Horse Artillery attached to the Brigade was sacrificed and four of the six Guns lost.

Eventually the enemy were dislodged. We captured 49 Guns, but our loss was very severe.

We remained encamped for a long time, the enemy and ourselves watching one another.

Our stay in Camp at Chillianwallah was enlivened occasionally by a slight skirmish with the enemy.

Goojrat, 21st February, 1849

One morning we discovered that the Sikh Army had abandoned their position quietly on the Kharian range and slipped round our right rear towards Goojrat. We followed the next day. They, finding they could not cross the Chenab as all the Boats had been secured, determined to give us battle at Goojrat. We waited to allow the Force from Mooltan to join us, and then took place the final overthrow of the Sikhs. It was a glorious fine morning and open country, all young Wheat and Barley Crops through which we advanced. As we neared the enemy we deployed into line.

The bed of a stream divided us from the enemy—the steep bank on their side, and they held two strong villages, Burra Kalra and Chota Kalra on their left.

At a fair distance from their position the whole of our Artillery came into action. An Artillery duel. We were much stronger, and after two hours they gave way. The Division on our right attacked the two villages Kalra and carried them with severe loss on both sides.

After the action we marched round the town destroying all the ammunition and securing the captured Guns. About sunset we got to the ground on the opposite side of the city, where we were to encamp.

April, 1849

It was now decided to annex The Punjab, and a Proclamation to that effect was issued. The Punjab Frontier Force was ordered to be raised, and I was offered the appointment of 2nd-in-Command of a Cavalry Regiment, which of course I accepted.

My new duties commenced at once and I had to select at first from the Sikh Troops who had been faithful to us during the late Campaign. Many of them declined service but still I got a good many.

In the meantime I continued raising the Regiment, and when I had enlisted some 400 I was ordered to march towards Rawul Pindee, gradually, to pick up more recruits.

We then moved to Goojerat, the scene of the battle of 21st February. Here I commenced to drill the men I had got together.

1850

We remained here till March 22nd. 1850, when we received orders to march to the Eusufzaie to relieve the Guides who were to move into Peshawur.

We marched across the Eusufzaie for "Topi-Mainah" under the instructions from Government communicated to us by George Lawrence.

In May I was ordered off with a Squadron to encamp near "Shewa," as the village of Narinjee, just outside of our border, encouraged by the Sittana Fanatics, were inclined to be troublesome. One morning accompanied by one Duffadar I rode into the village of Narinjee. The inhabitants were taken aback at my appearance and asked my reasons for coming there. I told them I wanted to purchase some mules. Some old Grey-beards came forward, took hold of my horse's head, and politely led me out of the village begging of me never to come again or they would not answer for my life. That visit was useful to me as seven years later, when we attacked Narinjee, I remembered the positions.

In the vicinity of Gaza on the Indus the tribesmen beyond our border used, in small parties, to cross the Indus on their inflated Buffalo-skins—called "Soornakh." They had marked down their prey, some well-to-do Bunyahs, some few of whom they would carry off, and on reaching the river he or they would be forced into these Skins and then the rider would blow into them thro' the mouthpiece fixed on purpose, and the unfortunate Bunyah was carried across inside the skin and landed more dead than alive on the other side and carried off into the hills and kept there till a handsome ransom was paid for their release —failing ransom they were either murdered or brutally mutilated.

On non-drill days—very early—we used to ride down Black Partridges, very easy work if your horse was well in hand and on his haunches. The country was very level and as you heard a cock calling, you rode up to the bush and had him out—full gallop after him—up again—out of any cover he had gone into. After three courses he was done, and you jumped off and laid hold of him.

Supplies for our Camp were in a great measure brought to us from across the river, 3 miles wide, and it was a curious sight to observe in the morning a whole fleet of men riding on "Soornakhs" (inflated Buffalo hides) lying on them full length with a big load balanced on their back and kept from sliding off by a cord round their forehead. All sorts of supplies used to come over to us, and as Maxwell, our doctor, was most skilful and generous in his medical help, I have seen sick and disabled men and women sitting on a man's back and crossing over in safety.

1851

On January 1st following I succeeded to the Command. I had in November moved the Regiment from Hoond to a ground close to Murdan, where we remained till end of February, when I received orders to march via Peshawur and Kohat to Bunnoo.

Directly we arrived I had to send out detachments to occupy various Posts, viz., Goomuttie, another one near it which was shortly after attacked in force by the Wuzeeries who were beaten off, the Koorum outposts, and one at Tockie. Even if we were out for a day's shooting an express would hurry us in, one of the Posts being threatened or the enemy dancing the War Dance on the hills near the Goomuttie Posts visible from our Camp.

During the whole hot season we were encamped on the Glacis of the Fort, and a precious hot time we had.

Worth recording—Lieutenant J. K. Couper's Regiment, 2nd Bengal Grenadiers, being ordered to march from Rawul Pindee down country, wished to

dispose of their Billiard Table, which I wrote for and bought and directed might be despatched and delivered to the Regiment at Bunoo. My offer was accepted, and I was informed the Table had been despatched packed in one or more Native Carts (Gharries) under charge of a Chupprassie. The Table never arrived and nothing was heard of it. We refused to pay for it.

Some 10 years afterwards, on going over the Murree Church, the large slabs with Commandments over Communion Table were pointed out to me, and it was explained that a village near Rawul Pindee being searched for Arms during the Mutiny (1857) in a refuse heap outside the village a whole Billiard Table was found buried, and as no owners could be traced the Civil Authorities decided to make over the four Slate Slabs to the Murree Church, and on them were cut "the Commandments."

The Wuzeeries constantly enlivened us, and we had numerous little lively affairs.

1852

Sir Henry Lawrence—Lord Stanley (now Earl Derby) came down the Frontier and paid us a visit.*

During my absence on leave Lieutenant J. K. Couper, the Adjutant, had left for another appointment, and been succeeded by Lieutenant Dighton M. Probyn,† 6th Bengal Cavalry.

Our regulation system of shewing your sentries and calling out "Who comes there?" about the most stupid ever thought of. Conceal your sentries supported by their reliefs, in a different position—more in advance at night. No challenging —no talking. Ask no questions, but fire when within 10 or 15 yards, with Buckshot if possible. For this purpose we had all our .12 bore doubles out at night with our two or three "shooting" parties. I explained this to H. M'Pherson, my 1st Brigade Brigadier, at Jellallabad, and he was successful at once.

1853

October, 1853.—We marched to Dera Ghazi Khan, where we relieved the 4th Punjab Cavalry and occupied their Lines (the old Sikh Cantonments) as a temporary measure.

We had a very pleasant time at Dera Ghazi Khan. During the cold weather constant shooting and Hog Hunting Parties on the various Islands on

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* (I remember my father telling me that one morning when he was escorting this party along the frontier Lord Stanley commented on the number of weapons my father was carrying, the latter replying that he was designing a new belt for his regiment and was finding out by practical experience the best way of carrying his arms. This belt eventually became known as the Sam Browne belt.—S. D. B.)

† Now General Sir Dighton Probyn, K.C.B., V.C., K.C.S.I.

the Indus—no end of Pigs and some "Goinds," but the grass jungle was very thick.

In 1854 I obtained the sanction of the Punjab Government to enlist a few Beloochees. I offered a Commission to Ismal Khan, younger brother of the Logarrie Chief Jullach Khan, if he would come with 25 or 30 of his tribesmen, giving him also the Non-Commissioned promotions. After consultations his terms were "They were not to wear Uniform, not to be drilled, to wear their hair long as usual, and to remain at their homes to do 'watch and ward'." These terms were not accepted.

1854

One morning as I was dismissing the Regiment after Parade the Native Officers came up and said, "A Petition to make" that the Regiment wished to volunteer for the War in the Crimea. Very satisfying. I went down the ranks and spoke to the men asking if it was their unanimous wish. They all yelled out "Yes!" I forwarded their offer to Government.

1856

New Furlo' Regulations having been issued granting 6 months' Furlo' to officers holding Staff appointments, I applied for Furlo' and left by Steamer from Mooltan via Kurrachee and Bombay. R. F. Pollock accompanied me, and I took home a "Markhor," whch was the first ever seen in England. I presented it to the Zoological Gardens.

1857

On the termination of the Bozdars expedition my Regiment was ordered to Kohat and we marched accordingly.

The day we arrived at Luttummur, just beyond Bunnoo, we learnt the first symptoms of the "Mutiny," little then expecting what it was to become.

We now heard of the outbreak at Delhi and the march of Troops for that place, and I got orders to move my Regiment to Peshawur.

We marched to Peshawur, leaving a small detachment at Kohat. By Edwardes* management all the lawless border ruffians joined us and were packed off to be useful down country. These very tribes who had been a thorn in our sides for a long time past came to our assistance, and kept watch and guard over the Native Regiment who were mistrusted and had been disarmed.

After a fortnight's halt at Peshawur I was ordered to proceed to Hoti Murdan, where "The Guides" started and made their ever memorable march from Murdan

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* Commissioner.

for Delhi, under H. Daly, within 12 hours of receipt of the order, marching in 21 days 580 miles during the hot months of May and June, and making a detour one night of 12 miles to attack Mutineers. The Guides lost 350 men killed and wounded at Delhi.

The Siege of Delhi was going on, and we all felt the precariousness of our position. The chances seemed against us.

1857

In beginning of July the Narinjee people, supported by the Sittana Fanatics and some Mutineers of 25th N. I. who had escaped to the Hills, now became troublesome, and it was decided to give them "a turn."

About 9 P.M. of 20th the Force fell in "and we moved off towards Permouli," marching slowly and constantly halting in consequence of the close and pressing weather. So hot was it during the night that tho' riding, I was obliged to call for water and have my head watered. We skirted Shewa and moved on towards Narinjee, arriving there just as it was getting light. The enemy were taken by surprise, but at once took to their arms.

I imagine I was the only European who had ever before been inside of Narinjee. I remembered the situation and strength of the position, one of which surprised and properly attacked was easy of capture.

However, the whole force marched up the bed of the broad nullah running under the village and drew up in front of and under the village. The alarm having been given before we were ready to attack, they commenced to drive off their cattle, and their matchlockmen with the Sepoys of 51st N. I. (mutineers) and Sittana fantics at once occupied the places of advantage.

I was ordered to pursue the cattle driven up the nullah, and secured some 100 head, losing 2 or 3 horses by the fire of their matchlockmen from the hill-side. I remained with my men till I saw there was some hitch in the front attack when I galloped down there and found the Mountain Battery had taken up a good position on a rising mound in front of the village with the Peshawur Mounted Police drawn up just below them. I rode up to the attacking party of 5th Punjab Infantry—they had just emptied their muzzle loading (two grooved) Rifles, difficult to reload, when a band of Sitana Ghazees rushed out from behind some buildings most pluckily, led by a Standard Bearer, and swept in, sword in hand, cutting down some of the Infantry, who retired slowly, trying to reload. I called up the Mounted Police who galloped down to me and they cut in.

A low thorn fence was then between me and the village, which my horse cleared and led me into a narrow fenced lane. As I rode up this lane a body

of Ghazees came down. I drew my Revolver and shot the first 3 of them with one shot each. The 4th man I had to give two shots. This checked the remainder and now the Infantry poured in and the village was gradually carried.

Tho' not 9 clock, the heat was terrible. I never before or since ever experienced anything like it. After we had gone about four miles the Sergeant-Major of the Mountain Battery—the only European besides the British Officers—rode up to my Doctor and complained of feeling very ill. Maxwell told him to ride in to Camp—which was then visible. We had not gone 200 yards when we picked him up dead: and 49 natives were during the day brought in dead, tied on Ponies' backs—all from heat apoplexy.

That same afternoon a severe Tropical storm burst. We were deluged with rain, but it saved no end of lives and made it cooler for the remainder of the time we were in camp. We attacked "Narinjee" again and demolished the whole place.

We then again advanced on Narinjee, but in the manner we should have done in the first occasion, and there was no more trouble. ...

We remained pretty quiet after this at Murdan. All thoughts centred on Delhi and the terrible news reaching us from all parts of India. By end of September we heard of capture of Delhi, which relieved our anxieties as it smothered any irritation Trans-Indus which naturally would have broken out had there been much longer any doubts about our supremacy. We now breathed more freely.

In December I received intimation that the Regiment would have to march down Country, and I was ordered to raise an additional Squadron. I received every assistance from Edwardes, the Commandant at Peshawur, and in a very few days got together a body of Pathans and Affreedies, a very rough lot and mounted on all descriptions of animals.

The Squadron of 2nd Punjab Cavalry, my Regiment, which started under my 2nd-in-Command Lieutenant Charles Nicholson and eventually when the latter was wounded and lost his arm and had to leave, was commanded by my Adjutant, Lieutenant D. M. Probyn, under whose command it remained, and did such glorious service. When I came down with the Headquarters of the Regiment it rejoined.

I have written this last (above Para.) to record one misunderstanding made by so many correspondents and other book authors, viz., "Probyn's Horse." As he was the only officer with the Squadron of 2nd Punjab Cavalry (Nicholson having been wounded and left), the Squadron was "called" after him. But as

the following year he was appointed to the Command of 1st Sikh Cavalry (now 11th Bengal Lancers) and this Regiment also took his name, "Probyn's Horse," the services of the 2nd Punjab Cavalry during the Mutiny are erroneously scored to the other Regiment which did not then exist.

1858

On 1st January, 1858, I marched from Murdan by forced marches for "Cawnpoor."

Notwithstanding this long march from Murdan to Cawnpoor—over 700 miles—I had only 16 horses on the sick list, nine of which were only serious.

After a few days' halt we marched with the Chief towards Lucknow. At "Onao" we joined the Army about to attack Lucknow.

23rd March, Koorsee

Marched out with a force under General Sir J. Hope Grant to follow some of the enemy and came up with them in after-noon. I was ordered to take all the Punjab Cavalry and pursue them, as we found they were leaving their position. After going two or three miles, I came in sight of them and here copy from General Sir J. Hope Grants' Diary:

"Captain Browne, who commanded, seeing some Guns moving off, charged the Rebels in the most magnificent style. Five times he rode clean thro' them, killing about 200 and taking 13 Guns and a Mortar. His unfortunate Adjutant, Lieutenant MacDonnell, was shot dead in the act of cutting down a Sepoy. Captain Cosserat (1st Punjab Cavalry) was shot thro' the face and died shortly after."

Dighton Probyn, who had been very seedy, now left us for England, a Major, V. C., and the command of 1st Sikh Cavalry (later on named 11th B. Lancers), a worthy testimonial for his good services with the Squadron of 2nd Punjab Cavalry.

August

In August it was deemed advisable to occupy Philibeet some 32 miles from Bareilly.

29th August

The enemy had four Guns, and we heard the firing at Philibeet where I was ordered with my Regiment and some more Infantry. I arrived at Noorgah in the afternoon and after hearing the report of the skirmish I went out to inspect. I found the enemy holding an elevated mound, the ruins evidently of an old village (Seerpoorah) some three miles distant. The ground separating us was one sheet of water—the inundation after the rains over rice fields. It was impossible to attack from the front.

On return to Noorgah I decided to march during the night and get in rear of their position. Mr. Malcolm Low, C.S., the Assistant Magistrate, got a couple of Guides, an old woman and a boy, who promised to lead us by a circuitous route round the enemy's right and take me to the rear of Seerpoorah.

After some little distance we got into the jungle and kept just within the edge of it. It was close on sunrise when I found myself directly about half a mile in immediate rear of the enemy. Here I halted for a short time and made my dispositions for the attack.

30th August, Action of "Seer-poorah"

Hitherto all had been perfectly quiet and we had been un-noticed, but the accidental discharge of a musket gave the alarm and I saw the enemy's picket on our (then) right front, galloping into Seerpoorah. There was no time to lose, and the advance was ordered in the following order:

1. A line of skirmishers with supports 24th Sikh Pioneers (now 32nd P.N.I.) } Under Lieut. Chalmers.
2. Detachments of Infantry Regiment 17th N. I. and Kumaon Levy. } Under Lieut. Cunliffe.
3. One Troop of Cavalry in rear of Infantry.
4. A Squadron of Cavalry on either flank.

Orders were given to skirmishers to advance without firing and rush the position. From where we advanced there was grass from one to four feet in height to the foot of the slope, to the enemy's position.

As the advance commenced the enemy brought round their Guns from their front to the rear of their position and opened fire.

Accompanied by Mr. Malcolm Low, C.S., with my two Orderlies and the Tehseel Sowars following Mr. Low, I rode up the road towards the mound, on the right of Skirmishers.

When about 100 yards or so from the mound a 9-lb. Gun on the side of the road had been playing on the Squadron on the right under Craigie, and I had sent off an orderly to order them to push on and then wheel to the left and charge into the left of enemy's position; this 9-lb. now opened on us with grape, and its first round bowled over five men behind us on the road. I then, followed by my orderly, galloped on to the Gun, which was being reloaded, and had a hand to hand business with the Gun's crew. Their leader attacked me with his *Tulwar*. One cut slipped down from my sword and caught the top of my knee, which it sliced, and before I could cover myself or get out of his reach gave me a slash thro' my left shoulder. As I wheeled round my horse reared and fell

back on me. When I came to myself again I found myself in a Dooly minus my arm. The cut on my knee hid by the top of my long boot had not been noticed, and which I then pointed out, when it was sewn up. I was then carried into Noorgah, where again my knee cut had to be re-sewn.

1860

I had 18 months' sick leave, but got an extension of six months and returned to India and rejoined my Regiment at Kohat in December, 1860, a married man.

1861-2

We remained at Kohat till October, 1862, when we marched for Rajanpore.

1864

In January, 1864, I was offered the Command of the Guides which I at once accepted. I rode up the Frontier from Rajanpore to Murdan, 480 miles, to take command and then back to Rajanpore, having got two months' leave to see the family off to England.

I rode the whole distance in five days by the aid of our frontier post horses and various chiefs, the latter friends on Frontier treks and shooting excursions. I rode back again the same way with the same help. I had 49 horses riding to Murdan and 52 riding back.

It was a great pang to give up the command of my old Regiment, the 2nd Punjab Cavalry. I commenced to raise it in April, 1849 and for two months held the temporary command, bringing the Corps up to 450 strong in end of June, 1849. Major D. Keiller then joined and took up the duties. In November following 1850, on Keiller's death, I reassumed command, in which I was permanently confirmed shortly afterwards and during a period of almost 15 years' service with it I held the command for 13 years, during which I was absent only once for six months to Cashmere 1852 and for 20 months in '59-60 on account of wounds.

1869

In 1869 I was again offered and accepted the Command of the Central India Horse, but before I took up the Command I received intimation I was to be appointed to the Command of the Peshawur District, so in three months I wended my way back from Augur and relieved Donald Stewart at Peshawur in May.

In September a terrible outbreak of Cholera occurred. The disease worked its way up the main high road from Amritsar. All the British Troops, 36th, 38th and 104th, the Artillery, who were sent out into Camp, were hard hit. The Native Troops who remained in Cantonments also suffered severely.

The memorials in the Peshawur Churchyard bear witness to the severe losses of the British troops.

1870

Having been promoted to Major-General in February, 1870, I had to give up my Command, but at the last moment, after I had sold off everything and was preparing to leave for England, I was told to hold fast as an "especial case" and received a complimentary letter from Lord Napier and I was reappointed for another year.

1871

I gave up command of the Peshawur District in beginning of April and left for England from Bombay with "the family," Wife, Dollie, Laurie, and Percy, and travelled home via Brindisi, Verona, Munich, Cologne, Brussels, and Ostend, the route via France being closed in consequence of the Franco-German War.

1875

I remained "unemployed" till April, 1875, when, having been offered and accepted the appointment of "Director of Remount Operations in India," I started for India on 7th April and on arrival at Bombay received orders to report myself at Simla.

In August I was informed that H. R. H. The Prince of Wales had elected me to be the Chief of the Staff in India to arrange all matters and details connected with His Royal Highness' approaching tour in India, and I was summoned to Simla to receive Lord Northbrook's instructions and to arrange accordingly.

Lord Northbrook consented that I should not be dissevered from my Stud duties, which with the Members of the Committee at Stud Headquarters and Secretary and Office with me on the tour, should carry on the work at the same time.

1877

In April, 1877, we went up to Simla again for the hot season, and again after the inspections and castings were over tried another line of country for a Run and succeeded in finding one some 20 miles from Lahore on the Mooltan line, which I later on strongly recommended should be taken up.

1878

In April, 1878, I was offered and accepted the Command of the "Lahore Division" and at once went up there to take it up in succession to Donald Stewart who had to leave on account of ill-health.

In beginning of August I was offered the seat of "Military Member of Council" and went up at once to Simla to succeed E. Johnson, who had gone

home very ill. I was to officiate for him. I little knew what important events there were then on the cards. Fred Roberts met me some two miles from Simla and as we rode up I learnt from him how imminent and serious were our relations with Cabul.

Lord Lytton was "The Viceroy. . . ."

NOTE

The following copy of a letter regarding the Sam Browne Belt was amongst my Father's papers. It was in an envelop together with two copies of the Army Orders, 1st September, 1899. The original letter was evidently one written to the War Office when the War Office were considering the introduction of the Belt to general service.—S. D. B.

This Belt is an improvement on the one I saw at The Stores.

Over and beyond the exact waist measure there should be not less than 2 holes (3 inches) to admit of its fitting easy over outer coat.

The two studs on the sword sling and the one on the Frog should not be so high. Space under the head is only required for one leather's thickness.

The Tongues of the Buckle should be more solid and not so fine pointed.

The Pistol Pouch should have the upper portion of the loop (thro' which the Belt runs) broader—as broad as the Pouch will admit of. I have scratched it on the Pouch. This can easily be done by reducing the depth of the loop which should not be an iota deeper than is actually necessary for the belt. Yours is much too deep. The object of its being as wide as possible at top and fitting the Belt tight is to prevent the Revolver from shaking at all, at whatever pace you may be riding and keep the point of the Revolver clear from your body, preventing any mishap to yourself or horse from accidental discharge. A Pistol Pouch as generally made invites serious mischief if accidentally discharged by the muzzle being pointed straight down on to the thigh. The particular slope and the breadth of loop at top in my proper pouch renders an accident to the wearer or to his horse impossible.

The Pouch,. when buttoned on to its proper place, should lie in the right front hollow over right hip, easy and comfortable, the point of Pistol clear of thigh and pointing to the rear. The revolver easily accessible for withdrawal instantaneously when required, and when in Pouch not interfering in any way with sword-arm.

Mr. R. Garden, Saddler, 200 Piccadilly (who retired from business in 1891) was the only maker who used to make my belts properly. He made the original one in 1856 from a pattern I brought that year from India. He used to seat the

purchaser on a horse block and fitted him exactly, seeing to the lie of the Revolver and to the proper hang of the sword. He did credit to my invention but soon all sorts of Patterns under my name were made and all sorts of bastard things were issued.

The two extra Ds at back of Belt are superfluous and were only put on for a time when the Belt was worn over a sheepskin coat to bring the shoulder brace more to one side.

THE MYSORE LANCERS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED

HEBBAL, BANGALORE

(ESTABLISHED 1920)

	Rs.
Authorised Share Capital (7,500 shares of Rs. 10 each	75,000
Subscribed Capital	42,100
Paid-up Share Capital	36,506
Deposits Held	30,136
Reserve Fund	23,007
Number of Members on the Roll on 30th June, 1940	568

In order to give a brief account of how the Mysore Lancers Co-operative Society came to be started, it is necessary to go back to the year 1898, when plague having broken out in Bangalore, the Regiment was shifted from there to its present place, Hebbal, nearly four miles away from the city proper, with a view to safeguarding the troops from such contagious diseases. All the men of the Regiment were provided with quarters, and to supply their needs, a line bazaar was also formed. In spite of the Regimental check on prices, quality, etc., of the commodities, the shopkeepers of the line bazaar made good profits although they were unable to provide all the requirements of the men, who often went to the City to purchase such articles as the line bazaar could not supply. In addition to its other deficiencies, the line bazaar could not cater for Regimental needs.

In 1914, whilst things were in this state, the Regiment went on Field Service, and the men had to buy their requirements from the Brigade Canteen. It was then found that on all purchases made by the men, a rebate was granted, and this Unit had for its share nearly Rs. 1,500, although the volume of business done was very little. This gave the then Commanding Officer, Major M. C. Subbaraj Urs, I.D.S.M., the idea of starting a similar concern for the benefit of the men of the Regiment, and soon after the return of the Regiment to Headquarters in 1920, the Mysore Lancers Co-operative Society was started as a joint limited concern, and began regular business on the 14th December of that year.

The main objects of the Society are the following:

(1) The furtherance of thrift and providence among members.

(2) The attraction of capital, and grant of credits to members.

(3) The sale of foodstuffs and clothing on fair and reasonable terms to members.

At present the Society operates the following sections:

(*a*) Provisions Stores Section.

(*b*) Clothing Stores Section.

(*c*) Banking Section.

(*d*) Milk Supply Section.

In the Provisions Section, the requisite foodstuffs are bought at wholesale rates from local and other dealers, stocked in the godowns, and issued to members for cash and credit, at a limited profit of six pies per rupee. Each member is allowed a certain extent of credit, and dues are collected every month out of his salary in settlement; a system which has been found satisfactory. On all cash sales, a rebate of two pies in the rupee is allowed, but the issue of goods for cash is limited. The selling price of provisions is controlled, and is lower than the market rate.

In the Cloth Section, the requirements of the Society are bought and stocked as is done in the Provisions Section, and retailed for cash and credit. On all cash sales to members, a rebate of four pies in the rupee is allowed, and credit purchase amounts must be cleared in six monthly instalments.

In the Banking Section, both current and fixed deposits are received from members, and interest is paid on their deposits at the current bank rate. Loans are granted on both short and long terms, the short loan being issued for and below Rs. 50, to be repaid within a month at 6¼ per cent. per annum interest, and the long loan granted for periods of 5, 10, and 20 months with interest at 13½ per cent. per annum. Ninety per cent. of the paid-up share capital is made available for these loans to the members of the Society.

There is also another loan operated in the Society, called the "Jewel Loan," which is granted to members on the security of their jewels. It used to be a common practice among the members to raise loans from the Marwaries and Multanies by pledging their jewels at abnormal and ruinous rates of interest. Invariably the pledged jewels could not be released on account of the exorbitant rates of interest, and several members sustained severe losses. The Society grants loans on the security of jewels at reasonable rates of interest. The jewels thus offered are subjected to the appraisal of an experienced jeweller engaged by the Society, and amounts to the extent of 60 per cent. of the appraised value of the jewel are granted, repayable in 60 monthly instalments, the interest charged being

6¼ per cent. Where renewals are possible, they will be granted for the repayment of these loans.

A special feature of this Society is its milk supply. Formerly, the Regiment got its milk from the local village milk vendors, and the quality of the milk was always inferior and adulterated before being brought to the Regiment. With a view to overcoming this, a dairy was started in the Society in the year 1928, and a sum of three thousand rupees was set apart for this purpose. The dairy worked on a paying basis, but several practical difficulties to its smooth running arose. Because of this, the livestock was disposed of in the year 1935, which resulted in a net profit of Rs. 1,500, and now the milkmen bring their cows to the Society, where they are milked under proper care and hygienic principles, supervised by a competent official of the Society. The milk thus obtained is retailed to the members, ensuring thereby a good supply of milk for the Regiment.

Management.—There is a Board consisting of 15 Directors. The Commandant and four Squadron-Leaders are the ex-officio Directors, and one Squadron-Leader is the Honorary Secretary, for one year at a time; while the remaining 10 Directors are elected annually by members at the General Meeting. Non-Commissioned Officers and Sowars are also eligible, no regard being had to their ranks, and all having a voice in the meetings, irrespective of their status in the Regiment. The Commandant is, of course, the *ex-officio* President of the Society. The Board of Directors meet once every month to transact business, and the general body holds its meeting once after the closure of the official year, namely, the 30th June of every year.

Dividends.—Out of the net profits of the year, 25 per cent. is allocated for the Reserve Fund, and the balance made available for the following items:

1. Dividends not exceeding 7½ per cent.
2. Rebate on credit sales of provisions and cloth.
3. Dividend Equalisation Fund.
4. Charity Fund.
5. Contributions to the Red Cross Association and, this year, to the War Fund.

Building and Reserve Funds.—Until the year 1937, the Society was located in one of the Regimental quarters and had no building of its own. The Reserve Fund had at its credit a sum of Rs. 23,000, and out of this a sum of Rs. 17,000 was utilised for erecting the present Society building. It is under contemplation to add another godown to the present building, using the available balance, so

that the Society may be in a position to hold larger stocks of both provisions and other commodities.

March of Progress.—The following statistical survey of the business turnover will show the march of progress made by the Society:

STATEMENT OF SALES FROM 1935 to 1940

	1934-1935			*1935-1936*			*1936-1937*			*1937-1938*			*1938-1939*			*1939-1940*		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1. Goods ..	71,650	15	2	64,820	5	0	68,427	1	8	67,336	15	1	75,581	11	4	81,271	0	0
2. Cloth ..	11,140	2	5	10,732	4	9	13,070	6	8	15,367	10	1	18,113	3	0	22,276	6	0
3. Dairy ..	11,771	4	7	6,761	1	5	4,000	8	10	4,826	12	4	5,046	12	6	6,159	4	2
TOTAL ..	94,562	6	2	82,313	11	2	85,498	1	2	87,531	5	6	98,741	10	10	1,10,506	10	2

GLIMPSES OF MANDU

By VISHWA NATH SHARMA

THE fort of Mandu is of renowned antiquity, and recent excavations have thrown much light on its hoary past. Since the dawn of the Christian era it has held a dominant position in Malwa, commanding, as it did, one of the oldest and important highways leading from northern to southern India.

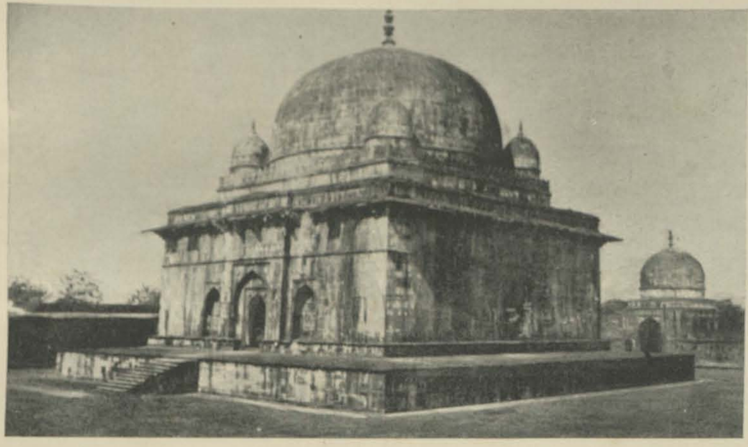
Very little information is available regarding the history of Mandu before the 9th century, but it rose to importance under the rule of the Pratihar Kings of Kanauj.

At the downfall of the Pratihar dynasty of Kanauj, the Parmars of Malwa threw off their allegiance and assumed the insignia of royalty. Thus the kingdom of Malwa, which had a modest beginning, increased both in territory and influence under the Parmar rulers, who ruled with Mandu as the capital of the whole of Malwa. This led to the erection of hundreds of temples and palaces as well as other residential edifices of great architectural merit. Since the mediæval period, Mandu has remained a sacred seat of Jain pilgrimage, and hundreds of pilgrims come every year to offer their prayers. The City of Mandu touched its zenith in the 13th Century. At this time, due to the constant Mohammedan invasions into Northern India, many rich people migrated and settled down at Mandu. The struggle between Prithvi Raj Chohan and Mohammad Ghori, and the fall of the former, also had far-reaching effects on the neighbouring Parmar Kings, and it ended in their transferring their capital and centre of political activity from Ujjain to Dhar and afterwards to the safer and better fortified Mandu. The population of the city in the year 1296, as mentioned in the chronicles of the period, reached 700,000.

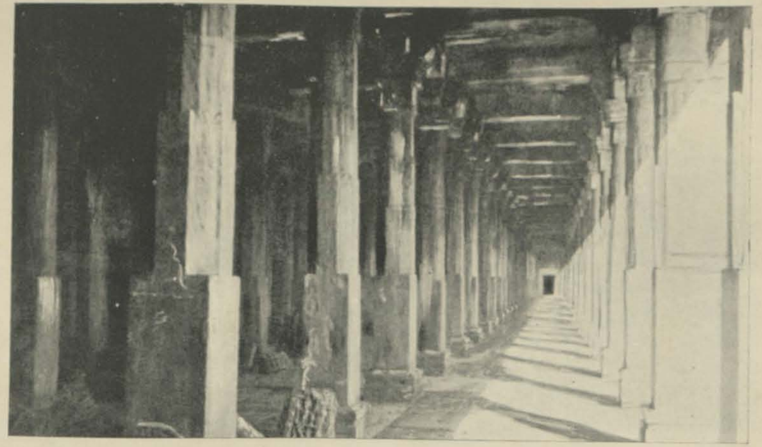
The Muslims continued their raids into Malwa, and in 1231-32 compelled Maharaja Deopal Deo Parmar of Dhar to sue for peace and to be content with the position of a feudatory vassal. However, Mandu did not wholly come under Muslim influence till 1304-5, when the Sultan of Delhi ordered his chamberlain, Ain-ul-Mulk Multani, "to cleanse that old *ghabristan* of the stench of infidelity." The general moved swiftly and quietly towards Mandu, and with the help of a spy entered the fort. A severe battle took place in which Mandu was defeated and passed under the sovereignty of Delhi. Mandu now fell from its high position, and its Hindu architectural glory was razed to the ground.

The invasion of Timur in 1398 dealt a deadly blow to the Delhi Sultanate and it crumbled to pieces.

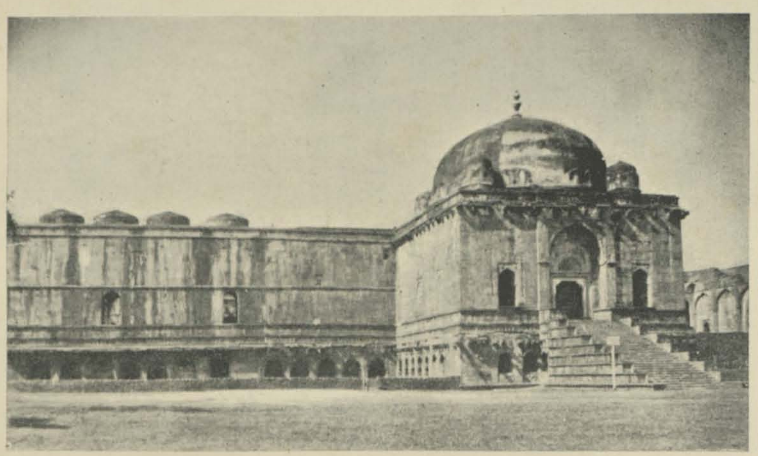
MANDU



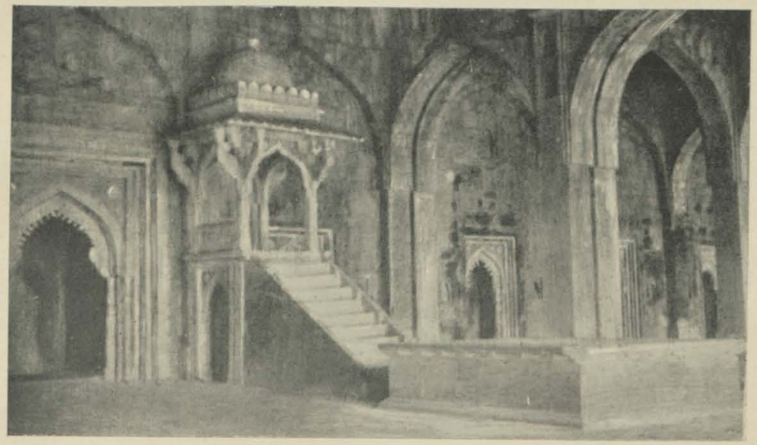
HOSHANG'S TOMB 1439 A.D.



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE SERAI



THE JAMI MASJID, 1454 A.D.



THE PRAYER CHAMBER

MANDU



ASHRAFI MAHAL, 1443 A.D. (MAHMUD KHILJI'S TOMB)



RUINS OF ROYAL PALACES ROUND CHAMPA BAODI, 1475—1500 A.D.



JAHAZ MAHAL, 1469—1500 A.D. FRONT VIEW



THE JAMI MASJID, 1454 A.D. THE LADIES' APARTMENT

Dilawar Khan Ghori, the governor of Malwa, threw off his allegiance to the Delhi Sultanate and became independent in 1401. His son, Hoshang Shah, who succeeded him, appreciated the strategic importance of Mandu, and made it his capital, reviving its past glory. These Pathan rulers were valiant soldiers and great builders who have left behind them magnificent structures which still adorn and dignify the fort, making it one of the richest centres of Islamic monuments in India. Mandu exhibits its own style of architecture popularly known as the Pathan Style, and is one of the best examples of civic architecture of the Pathan Period.

During his 27 years' rule, Hoshang Shah proved himself a popular and beloved ruler. He extended the limits of his kingdom widely and raised its status. He established dispensaries, schools and rest-houses throughout the Kingdom. He was also fond of Sanskrit literature. The great scholars and wealthy Jain merchants of the times of the Parmar Rajas who had deserted Mandu during the troubled times of the Mohammedan invasions, were brought back to Mandu by the Sultan and honoured with titles and ranks. Among the principal noteworthy architectural works of Hoshang is his own tomb constructed of white marble, which is one of the best specimens of Pathan architecture. The long structure in the compound was a *sarai* utilised by the pilgrims who visited the sacred shrine of Hoshang. The *sarai* with its other companions, the Malik Mughis and Dilawar Khan's mosques, is a noteworthy example of the combination of Hindu and Islamic architecture.

The construction of the principal Jam-i-Masjid and some of the palaces around the Munja tank, were also started in Hoshang's lifetime and were completed later by Mahmud Khilji I and his son and successor Ghayasuddin Khilji. During the time of the Sultans, all the Mohammedans of Mandu used to come to this mosque to offer Friday prayers. There are separate stairs for the Sultan and his queen on the north side, and the front portico is for the public to enter. At both the ends of the prayer hall, below the large side domes, there are upper apartments apparently meant for ladies. Originally there were 164 domes, but many of these have fallen in. Most of the big mosque and the monolithic pillars were constructed of red limestone, which had to be transported from a great distance and dragged up the precipitous sides of the ravine. Hoshang Shah also repaired, to a great extent, the fortifications of about 40 miles in length, and renovated the beautiful Delhi Gate and its impressive ramparts.

Under Mahmud Khilji, the fame of the kingdom of Malwa with Mandu as its capital, reached its widest limits. It became the centre of culture, crafts,

religion, riches, power and politics. Ambassadors from the courts of Egypt and Samarqand were seen sitting in the Hindola Mahal, the audience hall of the Sultans.

Almost the whole reign of Mahmud Khilji was passed on the battlefields, but he was also a great patron of learning and founded several schools, and the philosophers and learned persons of Malwa came to bear very fair comparison with those of Siraj and Samarqand. A large and well-equipped hospital was founded at Mandu under its own physician. Architecture also was not neglected, and he continuously sanctioned liberal grants for the erection of buildings. Besides completing the big mosque and a large portion of his master's tomb, he created a number of lofty structures throughout his kingdom. The most magnificent of these was his own tomb situated in front of the big mosque now styled the Asharfi Mahal. At one end of this stood the beautiful victory tower, seven storeys high, which was erected by Hoshang to commemorate his victory over the Rana of Mewar. The tomb itself was built of white marble and, when intact, must have been the most beautiful and gigantic edifice at Mandu. Since that time it has served as a cemetery for all the Sultans of the Khilji dynasty.

Mahmud was succeeded in 1469 by his son Ghayasuddin who, after one campaign, in which he was defeated, surrendered himself completely to the hilarious spirit of Mandu, and passed his life in peace and enjoyment.

There were 15,000 women in his harem and none of them was ugly or old. A city of women was built for them around the Munja Tank, and the Champa Baodi whose ruins cover a vast area. The neighbourhood of the Jahaz and Hindola Mahals has been much built over and many new additions were made during his long reign. Ghayasuddin is credited with the finishing of the work of the Jahaz Mahal (Ship Palace), Hindola and Taveli Mahal with the ramparts of Kapur and the Munja Tanks.

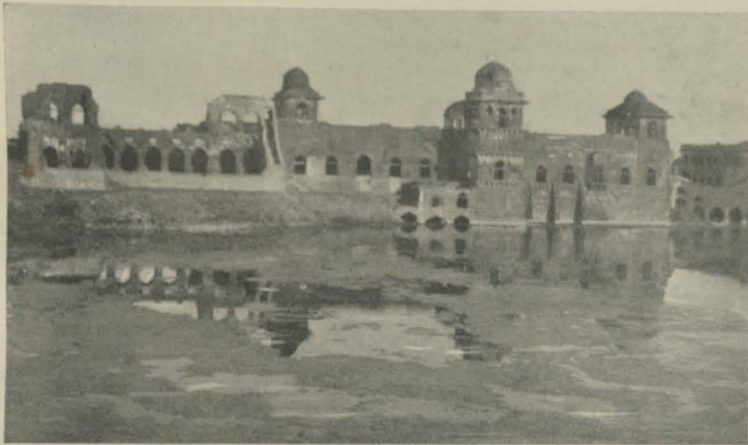
JAHAZ MAHAL

The road bifurcates near the Delhi Gate and its right branch leads to the royal enclosure. As soon as the visitor reaches this, he catches a glimpse of this beautiful edifice which derives its name from its position between two tanks, the Kapur on the East and the Munja on the West.

TAVELI MAHAL

On the right-hand side of the Ship Palace, close to the double gate, is the Taveli Mahal, a three-storied building with its impressive staircase and portico. It served as a stable for the special horses of the Sultan's and other bodyguards. The terrace of this mansion commands a beautiful view of the surrounding country and ruins.

MANDU



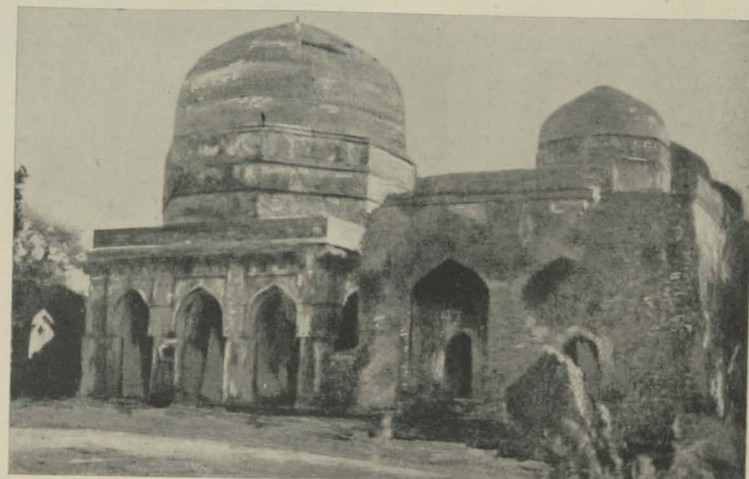
JAHAZ MAHAL, 1469—1500 A.D. REAR VIEW



TAVELI MAHAL, 1469—1500 A.D.

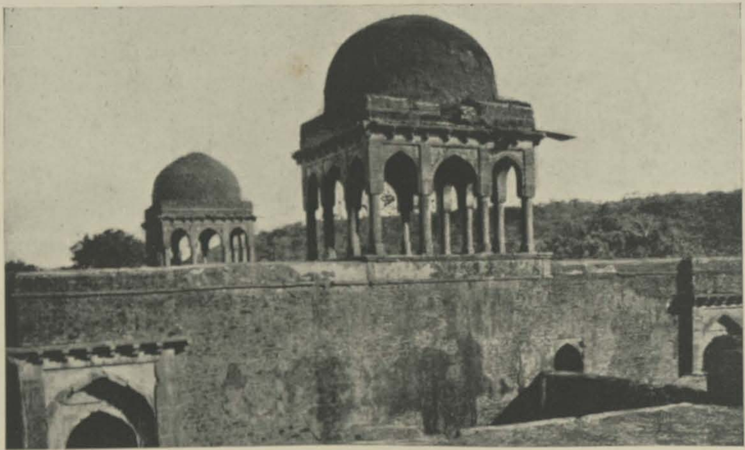


HINDOLA MAHAL, 1465 A.D.

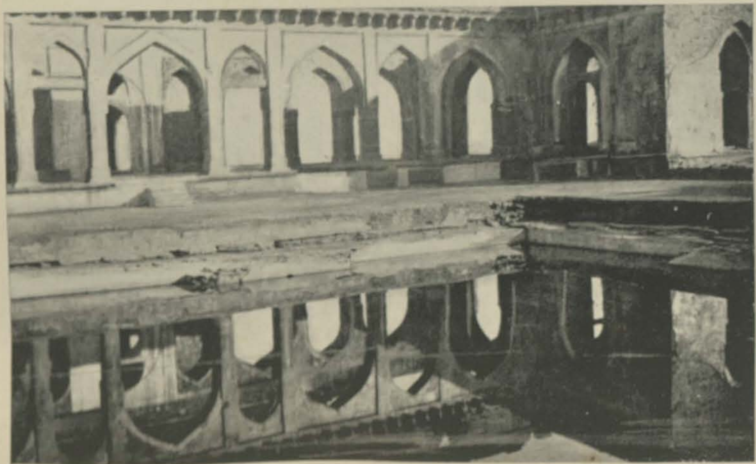


HATHI PAGA MAHAL

MANDU



BAZ BAHADUR PALACE, 1508 A.D.



BAZ BAHADUR PALACE 1508 A.D



THE WATER PALACE

CHAMPA BAODI

This is a subterranean well situated to the west of the Hindola Mahal, and was the main source of supply for drinking water for the royal family and the king's seraglio. The courtyard round this well is two storied, and comprises spacious chambers covered with petty but graceful vaults and arches.

The Hammam—A Turkish Bath in which there were arrangements to make the water hot, and channels of hot and cold water ran together to the tubs. Above in the dome, star-like holes were made for ventilation.

Hindola Mahal—The Swing Palace was an audience hall of the Sultan. It is a structure of striking features. The Queen's audience hall is on the upper storey, and is accessible by a flight of sloping stages for the queen's palanquin. The balconies are beautiful and in two of the niches are studded Hindu images with their heads upside down. The roof of both the halls has fallen down.

Nasiruddin ascended the throne at the age of 51. He was given to fits of ungovernable fury and shameless drunkenness, which usually degenerated into bloody barbarities. The City of Joy became a place of dread and terror, and revolts broke out in many parts of the kingdom.

* * * *

Nasiruddin was very fond of architecture. The beautiful palace on the bank of Rewa Kund, now known as Baz Bahadur's palace, was built by him. It is a spacious building with an impressive marble balcony and open courtyards. In the north side courtyard there is a big cistern full of clear water. It was originally connected with a water aqueduct which runs on the top of the big archedo in front of the main entrance. A Persian wheel was fixed to lift water from the adjoining Rewa Kund. *The Water Palace* is situated to the west of the Jahaz Mahal and is assigned to Nasiruddin Khilji. A great portion has fallen down but, from what is left, one can imagine its beauty and grandeur. It differs in style from the other buildings of Mandu, and it is said that Italian masons were employed in its construction.

Mandu now went through a period of wars and pillage until the rise of Baz Bahadur as Sultan of Malwa. He was the last independent monarch of Mandu, and was an exceptionally gifted musician of wide fame. Under his rule, the City of Joy once again revived its past glory for a period of six years. He married Rupmati, a Hindu girl of matchless beauty, and her high qualifications in composing poetry and sweet singing cemented them together in love. Mandu has perhaps never seen such a happy royal couple. Tradition depicts Rupmati as a great devotee of the Nerbudda, without whose *darshan* she never ate a single

morsel of food. On this account, a pavilion known as Rupmati's Pavilion was built on the crest of the southern fort wall. From its style, however, it appears more likely to have been erected during the reign of the Khilji Sultans.

Baz Bahadur was defeated at Sarangpur by Adam Khan, the general and foster-brother of Akbar. He captured the royal seraglio and wanted to take Rupmati into his harem. But, like a true wife, she took poison.

During the reign of Akbar, Mandu became one of the Sarkars of the Malwa Subah, and Shah Budagh Khan, the Mughal governor of Mandu, built on the site of an old temple a lovely pleasure-house known as the Neelkanth, the only Mughal architecture at Mandu. On its walls are depicted the arrival and departure of Akbar at and from Mandu.

Akbar and Jehangir repaired the buildings, and the latter constructed the Nahar Zarokha Palace in the north of the Hindola Mahal. The building derives its name from the marble balcony which rests on the effigy of a tiger.

Jehangir's son, Shah Jehan, lived at Mandu after he had rebelled against his father, and made it the centre of his activities.

Aurangzeb constructed the first gate through which carriages pass on their way to Mandu. After the emperor it is called the Almgir Gate. Aurangzeb also repaired the ramparts in 1668 A.D.

Besides the above-mentioned monuments the following are worth visiting:

(*i*) *Dái-ká-Mahal* (Nurses' Tomb), (*ii*) *Dái-ki-Chhoṭí Bahan ká Mahal* (situated on the bank of the Sagar Tank near the Echo Point), (*iii*) Dariya Khan's Tomb, (*iv*) *Lál* Bungalow, (*v*) Tarapur Gate, (*vi*) *Háthí Paga Mahal*, (*vii*) Songarh Gate, (*viii*) Loháni Caves, (*ix*) Chistí Khan's Palace and (*x*) Gadá Shah's Palace and Shop.

After the downfall of the Moghul Empire, Marathas in the south became powerful and, with the help of Panwar, Holkar and Scindia, Bajirao Peshwa defeated the last Moghul governor, Daya Bahadur, in 1728 at Tirla, and Mandu came under the rule of the present Panwar family of Dhar. Our Maharaja Anan Rao Puar Sahib of Dhar grants liberal sums of money every year for the conservation of these ancient monuments. This historical place, which has enjoyed world-wide fame, is the pride of Dhar State.

MANDU



RUPMATI'S PAVILION

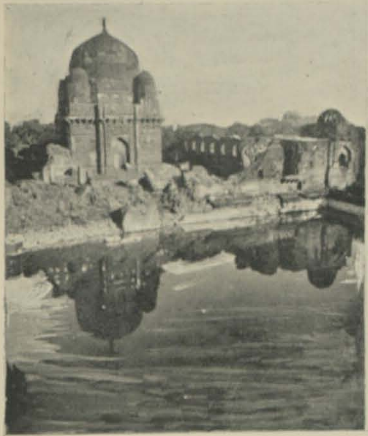


THE NEELKANTH, 1574 A.D.



KAPUR TANK PAVILION

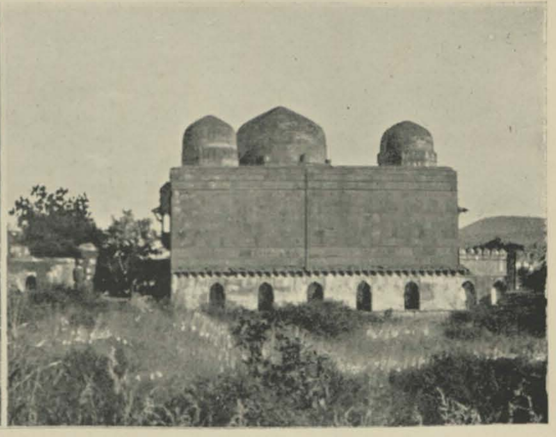
MANDU



DARIYA KHAN'S TOMB



SONGARH GATE



DAI KA MAHAL



GADA SHAH'S PALACE



GADA SHAH'S SHOP

[TWO ESSAYS GIVING VIEWS ON THE ORGANISATION AND FINANCING OF SOLDIERS' BOARDS IN STATES]

(I) THE INDIAN SOLDIERS' BOARD

BY COL. ABDUL RAHMAN KHAN CHIB,
ARMY MINISTER, ALWAR

THE importance of the Indian Soldiers' Board, which has been in existence for the last 21 years, has proved to be indeed very great. I am not sure if any of the Indian States maintaining State forces have constituted any similar organization for the benefit of their own soldiers and their dependents, and it is with this in mind that this article is being written for the *Indian States Forces Annual*. Most of the information contained in this article is out of the pamphlets that have been issued, from time to time, regarding the Indian Soldiers' Board. The object of repeating it here is to assist such officers of the States as may be interested in the subject and as may find themselves in a position to approach their authorities for the creation of Soldiers' Boards for their States Force personnel. One thing which might hinder such a scheme is the question of funds, but for a Board required to serve comparatively small numbers, as in the case of State Forces, it will not be necessary to have as varied and as large funds as those for the Indian Soldiers' Board.

At the conclusion of the last Great War, attention had at once to be diverted to serious consideration of many problems that inevitably arise during a period of demobilization, when men released from the colours have not yet settled down to the ordinary conditions of peace. There is no denying the fact that the military arrangements for the demobilization of a large part of the Indian Army were conceived excellently, and were carried out admirably, but still, unforeseen difficulties arose in practice, which could not be dealt with satisfactorily by any existing department of Government. The establishment of some special, if transitional, organization was emphatically required. The finding of employment for soldiers released from the colours, the grant of rewards to those who were incapacitated for further service, the education of soldiers' children, and the general safeguarding of soldiers and their dependents, were all matters demanding immediate and close attention.

To meet this situation, the Indian Soldiers' Board was constituted in February, 1919, in place of the Central Recruiting Board, the purpose of which had

been fulfilled with the end of the War. As the years passed, the Indian Soldiers' Board had to adjust itself gradually to normal peace conditions; and experience proved conclusively to all concerned with the interests of the Indian Army that the Board should be retained as a permanent institution. The duties of the Board have, in the course of time, naturally expanded and developed to meet widening purposes which have been recognised as desirable.

The Board is composed of three members of His Excellency the Viceroy's Executive Council, of whom one is President, His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab, the Defence Secretary, the Adjutant-General in India, and the Financial Adviser, Military Finance. An Under-Secretary in the Defence Department acts as Secretary to the Board in addition to his other duties.

The Central Board at Simla, and at New Delhi during the winter, co-ordinates the activities of kindred organizations in the various areas from which the bulk of the Indian Army is recruited. There are eight Provincial and State Soldiers' Boards in India, namely Berar, Bombay, Delhi, N.W.F.P., Punjab, U.P., Kashmir and Rajputana. Under the control of the Provincial Boards, there exists throughout the country a network of subordinate organizations and District Soldiers' Boards. Among the Indian States Kolhapur, Hyderabad, Kashmir, Faridkot, Kapurthala, Jind, Loharu, Alwar, Jaipur, Bharatpur, Jodhpur and Bikaner, etc., maintain such Boards and their sub-committees.

The Indian Soldiers' Board is charged with the duty of looking after the welfare of the ex-soldier. In carrying out this duty, the Board works mainly through Provincial and State Soldiers' Boards, though in areas where the number of ex-soldiers is insufficient to warrant a special organization, they work with the assistance of the local civil authorities.

The organization of District Soldiers' Boards and their methods of operation must naturally vary to a considerable extent according to local circumstances, such, for example, as the number of ex-soldiers resident in the district. The chief objects of these Boards are:

(*a*) Constantly to endeavour to promote and maintain a feeling of goodwill between the civilian and military classes.

(*b*) To give all possible assistance to the President of the Board in his capacity as head of the District (if so) in all administrative matters connected with the ex-soldier or his family.

(*c*) To demonstrate the benefit, and so promote the desire for mutual co-operation between ex-soldiers and civilian officials.

(*d*) To represent and explain to the civil authorities all matters of particular moment to ex-soldiers that require the attention of the local administration.

(*e*) Generally to watch over the welfare of the ex-soldier and his family and the interests of serving soldiers absent with their units.

Among these duties are included:

(*i*) Circulation of information regarding the educational concessions available for soldiers' children.

(*ii*) Obtaining of information regarding employment, facilities for training for civilian vocations and concessions open to discharged men, and to maintain a register of ex-soldiers desirous of obtaining employment.

(*iii*) Ascertaining and intimating the whereabouts of an absent soldier to his dependents, and communicating to him matters of importance affecting his family's welfare.

(*iv*) Production of legal advice in the case of law suits of an absent soldier, where there is no male member of his family, and also in the interests of serving soldiers who are absent.

(*v*) Assistance to the families of absent soldiers in the event of disease or famine.

(*vi*) Assistance to ex-soldiers and their dependents in securing medals, pensions, arrears of pay, etc.

(*vii*) Keeping a watch on the adequacy of the number of pension-paying Branch Post Offices, especially in hilly districts, and if and when there is a need of more such offices, to bring the fact to notice.

(*viii*) Investigation of cases of ex-soldiers invalided out of the Army from chronic diseases, e.g., tuberculosis, leprosy, diabetes, etc., and to report them to the Provincial Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society for medical assistance.

(*ix*) Investigation of applications for relief from the various charitable funds.

The District Soldiers' Board is ordinarily composed of:

(1) A President, who is normally the local Deputy Commissioner, or other civil head of the District.

(2) One Military Vice-President who is detailed by Army Headquarters. One additional Military Vice-President who is the Recruiting Officer or the Assistant Recruiting Officer of the Area concerned.

The Military Vice-President, besides acting as a link between the Board and the Army, is expected to do all in his power to lighten the work of the President, who, by reason of his other duties can, as a rule, only devote a limited amount of time to the affairs of the Board.

(3) A Secretary who may be an ex-Indian Officer. The Secretary is in charge of the Board's Office and conducts all its work, other than that pertaining to the Honorary Treasurer, according to the instructions of the President of the Board.

(4) An Honorary Treasurer. It may sometimes be desirable to have such an officer to take charge of the Board's Office Funds and maintain its accounts. He should also be an ex-Indian Officer.

(5) A number of members, both military and civil, according to local circumstances. The great majority should be ex-Indian officers or men, but it will usually be desirable to include some of the prominent civil officials of the district. It is not necessary to limit the membership to any definite number, but care should be taken, on the one hand, that all non-military elements in the district which can be of real assistance to ex-soldiers are represented and, on the other, that persons who desire to become members for their own personal advantage, and not to help the cause of the ex-soldier, should be rigidly excluded. The Boards must not be allowed to become mere associations of ex-Indian Officers, but should always include representatives of the rank and file among ex-soldiers as well.

Meetings of the full Board are held as necessary but normally once a quarter.

It is very essential that every effort should be made to decentralise the work of the Board, and for this purpose, when necessary, a Working Committee is appointed, which conducts the routine business of the Board. They meet as often as the work demands, and dispose of all but the most important matters, and particularly the selection of deserving cases for financial assistance from various charitable funds.

Tehsil sub-committees are formed where the numbers of ex-soldiers warrant them. The president of such sub-committees is the civil head of the Tehsil. Each sub-committee is represented on the District Soldiers' Board of the particular area. These sub-committees are expected to be in touch with the ex-soldiers in their area through their members, each of whom is made responsible for a parti-

cular sub-area. They represent to the Working Committee all matters affecting ex-soldiers, either collectively or individually.

District Soldiers' Boards should leave no stone unturned to make their existence known among soldiers and their dependents. For this purpose they may find it useful to depute selected members to tour in the districts to explain their functions. Until ex-soldiers of a district have confidence in their local Boards, and turn to it automatically for help when in trouble, that Board is not doing its work effectively.

Experience has shown that reunions, even if they are only organised locally, are very popular with ex-soldiers. Presidents of District Soldiers' Boards should bear in mind the possibility of arranging them in conjunction with official military parades on Armistice Day or 1st January.

The District Soldiers' Boards are, and must remain, civil organizations because (*a*) any organizations of this kind must have the Deputy Commissioner as its head, or no great interest will be taken in it locally, and (*b*) the ex-soldier is a civilian and he must fit, or be fitted, into the life of his district as such.

At the same time, the District Soldiers' Board should be in close touch with the Army. This is one of the reasons why the Military Vice-President has been included in each Board. Units can do a lot to make the working of the Board a success. They should get into touch with the District Soldiers' Boards of the districts from which they recruit, and should apply to them for information which they require, in all matters within the province of these Boards. They should ensure that all men, before they take their discharge, know (if it is so) that there is a District Soldiers' Board in the district, and what it can do for them. It should be impressed on them that when they have left the Army, the District Soldiers' Board is their channel of communication with the military and the civil; that the more they use it and support it, the more valuable it will grow; and that if they do not use and support it, they must not grumble afterwards if there is no one to listen to their grievances. In the case of pensioners, it might be pointed out that one of the duties which the Government can easily require of them in return for the grant of their pensions, is to assist in the working of the local District Soldiers' Board as much as they can.

It has been found that soldiers returning to their villages on leave, or after transfer to the reserve, or to pension, often experience difficulty in putting into practice the principles of rural reconstruction which they have been taught during their army service. The District Soldiers' Board is in touch with the serving and ex-service military population of the district, all of whom have learned the ele-

ments of cleanliness and sanitation in the Army, and most of whom have received instruction during their military service in the principles of rural reconstruction. At the same time, it is in touch with the civil authorities, through the President of the District Soldiers' Board, who is in most cases the Deputy Cmmissioner or Collector of the district. A District Soldiers' Board is, therefore, in an excellent position to assist both parties in their collective or individual efforts to raise the standard of living in the villages. This it can do by enabling soldiers and ex-soldiers to bring forward their rural reconstruction difficulties and by assisting the civil authorities to make use of the large body of instructed military and ex-military personnel living in the villages, or returning to the villages on leave from time to time. Such a course would be to the mutual benefit of both parties, and should also do much to increase the prestige and usefulness of the District Soldiers' Boards.

The Central Soldiers' Board, which administers a charitable fund, formed from the balance of the Imperial Relief Fund, makes an annual contribution to Provincial Governments, Administrations and Soldiers' Boards, for the upkeep and maintenance of the various subordinate organizations. The Central Soldiers' Board also administers certain other charitable funds: These include the following:

India and Burma Military and Marine Relief Fund—Out of this, relief in the form of temporary pensions or lump-sum monetary grants is given to combatant ranks and non-combatant personnel of the Army in India, of the Royal Indian Navy and the Air Forces in India who were disabled and the dependents of the same categories who lost their lives, as a result of the last Great War (1914—18), or of overseas or frontier service, or other active service operations in India.

Indian Army Benevolent Fund—Out of this, relief in the form of temporary pensions or lump-sum monetary grants is given to Indian ex-combatants or non-combatants and the dependents of deceased Indian personnel of the Army in India who are ineligible for assistance from any other military relief fund.

Sir Victor Sassoon-Fund—Out of this, relief in the form of loan or lump-sum monetary grants is given to ex-soldiers who have lost a limb or limbs, or the use of a limb or limbs, on active service or on duty in peace.

Compassionate Fund—Out of this, relief in the form of monthly allowance is granted to widows and children of Indian officers whose death, while serving or after retirement, is not attributable to military service.

The Central Soldiers' Board considers recommendations for assistance from the funds twice yearly. These recommendations are made by the District

Soldiers' Board and their sub-committees with the help of the local civil authorities. There is a prevalent belief that the doling out of charity from these funds is the chief task of the District Soldiers' Boards. This is a complete fallacy. The various functions of the Soldiers' Board have been enumerated in the preceding paragraphs, but there is no end to the work which it can undertake in the interests of the ex-soldier. In an emergency, the District Soldiers' Board could be utilized for recruiting, intelligence, propaganda and similar duties as required. All this becomes very important now when the war is being fought against the evil forces of Nazism, and the Soldiers' Boards are expected to be fully alive to their responsibilities at this juncture.

(II) THE SOLDIERS' BOARD AND LAND DEVELOPMENT IN INDIAN STATES

By "RORAMP"

THE following notes have been written in the hope that they may be of assistance to any Indian State where a "State Soldiers' Board" does not exist, and where the formation of such an organization is contemplated.

It having been decided that a Soldiers' Board should be formed in Rampur, finance—as usual—was the difficulty, and the feeling in our State Forces was that a plan should be formulated whereby the Military Members themselves should raise funds, and not call on the State for any "Grant-in-Aid." An opportunity presented itself in the idea that a plot of land, some 240 acres in extent, a gift to the Army by a former Ruler—should be developed agriculturally. This land had, up till then, been utilised as a Grass Farm for the Squadron of Lancers, but the bulk of it had been let out for grazing. Under this scheme, only about Rs. 700 was realised yearly, which seemed a poor return for 240 acres of rich soil.

A start was accordingly made by sending an ex-subedar and ex-dafadar for instruction on the experimental farm of the State Agriculture Department. After these two men had received a month's intensive training, it was felt that a start might be made on the agricultural development of the Farm. Ex-soldiers were called for—10 in number—as the pioneer *kisans*, and, in July, 1939, work was begun. It was not, of course, practical for this small number to cope with anything like the whole of the area available, so some 20 acres was selected, and the balance let out for grazing on a *batai* system. Under this arrangement, settlers (ex-soldiers wherever possible) were given small plots on the following conditions:

(*i*) Settlers must "work" the land themselves, and provide their own seed.

(*ii*) At harvest time, all crops must be brought to a H.Q. Collecting Depot where each settler's crops would be divided, 50 per cent. going to the settler and 50 per cent. to the Farm.

(*iii*) The settler must be prepared to give up the land at any time that it might be required for the Farm proper, and in this circumstance the "Farm" agreed to employ the settler on a fixed monthly wage.

Apart from the financial aspect of this, the scheme was immensely popular, and sufficient land was not available for distribution to all applicants.

The first crop was maize, and the Farm's share came to Rs. 720 of which Rs. 500 was received from settlers under the *batai* system. During the same

period Rs. 87 was realised from grazing charges and sales of grass. Thus it will be seen that, in the first four months of the scheme, a sum of Rs. 807 was received, which was more than the total annual income under the old scheme.

As soon as the maize had been harvested, wheat and cotton were sown, and this realised Rs. 1,828 *plus* Rs. 70 from sales of grass. These transactions took us up to the end of July, 1940, so it will be seen that the total income for the first 13 months' farming was Rs. 2,705. expenses during this period on account of wages of staff, improvement of ground, cost of seeds, etc., were Rs. 1,031. The first year, therefore, showed a net profit of Rs. 1,674. Wages, in relation to income, were admittedly high during this period. This was due to the employment of casual labour, and the cost of manure and seeds, etc., for an additional 40 acres which were under preparation by the Farm permanent staff. The expenses in this connection will be amply repaid on the harvesting of crops sown during this period. Rs. 2,000 is anticipated from wheat, maize, jute and cotton, and Rs. 2,500 from the sale of sugarcane. This latter calculation is based on the farm only receiving four annas and two pies per maund for cane at factory gates.

Further plots—totalling 24 acres—will be put under sugar in November-December this year, and the present area of sugar will be on "Ratoon," which means that next year there will be a considerable area under this crop.

The sale of maize and sugar this year will allow of additional labour being employed. This will be found from ex-*Faujis,* and will admit of more rapid development.

Various types of cotton seed have been experimented with during the current season, as the recent opening of a textile factory in the State has provided a local market.

Owing to various factors—the primary one of which was to run the farm from its inception on a self-paying basis, progress in the initial stages of development has been relatively slow. With additional finances from sale-proceeds of ever-increasing crops, the rate of progress will be greatly enhanced, and it is hoped within two years to have half the farm under sugar, and the other half under "Surface" crops, e.g., cotton, maize, tobacco, wheat, etc. Rotation will then be biennial and, with local markets for all produce, a large sum of money should rapidly accrue to provide a regular income for a State Soldiers' Board.

At present all ploughing is done with bullocks, but as income becomes available, a small tractor will be purchased. Similarly, threshing is now done by the old-fashioned "treadmill" method, but a mechanical thresher has been earmarked for early purchase. This will greatly speed up this process.

It may be of interest to note that, up to date, all grain crops have been sold to serving soldiers, and although an extra two seers per rupee above market rates have been added, a considerable profit has been made.

Should this experiment prove to be the success it presages, it is hoped to establish *Fauji* Agriculture Settlements in other parts of the State. These, of course, would not be utilised to augment the finances of the Soldiers' Board, but as mutual co-operative centres of ex-*Faujis* settled on the land. Such centres would, therefore, be colonies of ex-*Faujis* and, *ipso facto,* provided they are selected with forethought, a potential reserve in times of any communal or other disquiet. They could be utilised as a valuable aid to the State Rural Development Campaign, and by their example be, it is hoped, a pattern for other villages in their respective vicinities. The Committee of the State Soldiers' Board would continue to maintain an interest in them, and give assistance as regards scale of crops and advise in whatever capacity desired.

It can further be assumed that the establishment of settlements such as these would greatly open up recruiting areas in the *Dehat.*

In Rampur, we have been fortunate to secure His Highness as Patron of the Soldiers' Board, and he has been pleased to direct that the income from the Farm shall be devoted partly as income of the Board, and partly be placed at the disposal of the Chief Commandant for providing facilities for the Army which would not be a fair charge against the Army Budget.

The constitution of the Rampur State Soldiers' Board is as under:

PATRON

His Highness the Nawab.

PRESIDENT

The Chief Minister.

MILITARY VICE-PRESIDENT

The Chief Commandant and Military Secretary.

MEMBERS

Officers Commanding each unit of the Rampur State Forces. One member nominated by the Revenue Minister.

(NIZAM'S OWN)
BATTALION
HYDERABAD
INFANTRY

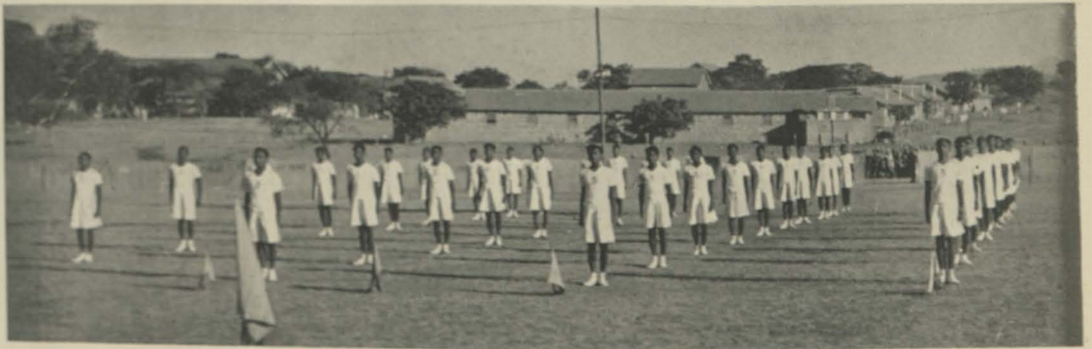


A
MILITARY
DISPLAY
1940

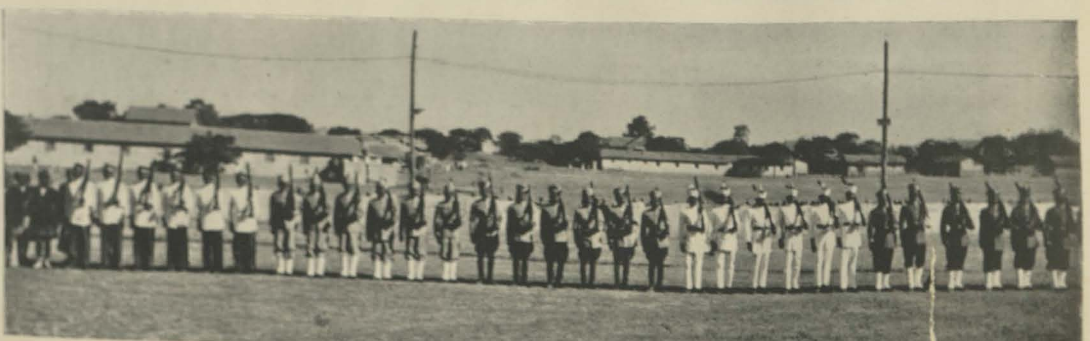
THE REGIMENTAL MASCOT



THE PIPE BAND



THE P. T. SQUAD



SOME UNIFORMS OF THE BATTALION FROM INCEPTION OF H. E. H. THE NIZAM'S R.F. TO PRESENT DAY

HYDERABAD INFANTRY

By Senior S. S. O.

MUCH water has flowed under the bridges (a more appropriate simile for this cantonment would be that much wire has been put up on the posts) since the last news letter was written. Italy's entry into the war has more than quadrupled the number of "guests" for whom accommodation has had to be found in the Central Internment Camp, which has consequently grown from a compact, easily-guarded enclosure, to an unwieldy, straggling Camp with over 4,800 yards of perimeter and some 27 corners and bends. We, who have the task of guarding this Camp, often look longingly at the sketch of a typical Camp in the official pamphlet regarding such matters and, while we appreciate fully the amenities of Cantonment life, sometimes wish that our Camp was in a desert, with no existing barracks and bungalows to tyrranize over the shape and location of extensions.

The first two extensions were erected in June, with the assistance of some Sappers and Miners. Heavy rain made the ground a morass, and every man carried some pounds of black mud on his boots, and digging holes for fence-posts was not an easy task. The work was urgent, and every available man worked for nine hours daily till it was done. It was completed in advance of scheduled time, and both wings were occupied a few days later. The third wing was put up in August, and though the Battalion was new to wiring, all ranks worked with a will. The men soon lost their fear of wire, and in a day or two were very quick at the work. A good deal of subsidiary wiring, and a lot of tent-pitching and striking, also had to be done at this time. In spite of this, the large number of prisoners-of-war who were to be its first occupants, found it ready, with the sentries already acquainted with their new beats.

October found us settled in to the new routine, which, of course, entailed much heavier guard duties. Then came the first escape, a clever one by four prisoners-of-war, whose use of ground was an object-lesson to us. This shocked us out of our complacency, and made us realise that escapes could occur, even here. But the lesson that wire is not an impassable obstacle unless it is under constant observation, was emphasised some 10 days later, when a young German ship's hand with the reputation of being somewhat of an acrobat, got away and left no trace of how he went. All these were recaptured within a few days of their escape, and the sentries concerned duly suffered for their neglect. Nothing could have been better calculated to put the Battalion "on its toes" than these escapes. Months of monotonous walking up and down the perimeter,

with nothing happening, had induced a false sense of security which has now completely disappeared. We have reorganised the guards, and while we do not flatter ourselves that no further escapes will occur, we know that we have stopped a good many "holes," and made any attempt at escape by way of the wire considerably more dangerous to the escaper than before.

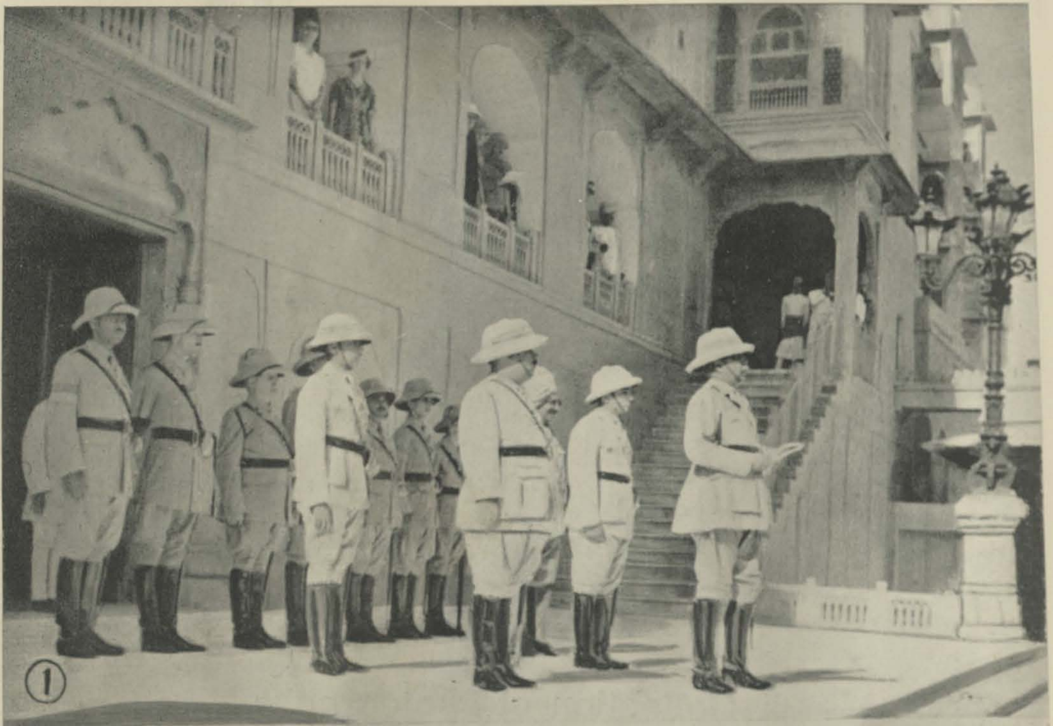
In the year under review, many other things have changed. In the last letter, Battalion Headquarters and one Company were in barracks six miles from the remaining three Companies which formed the Escort Detachment, and were accommodated in tents in the vicinity of the Central Internment Camp. Huts for this Detachment were eventually completed, and were occupied in April, and about a month later, news of the relief of our other Battalion was received. The relief took place in July, and shortly afterwards came the very welcome decision to enlarge the Hutted Camp to accommodate the whole Battalion. This work was duly carried out, and on 9th October, Battalion Headquarters and the Company moved to the new Escort Camp, though all the huts were not completed till 9th November. The concentration of the Battalion in the Escort Camp has eased the situation considerably, and we are now busy tidying up our new lines, and trying to make them look respectable in readiness for the Military Adviser-in-Chief's visit.

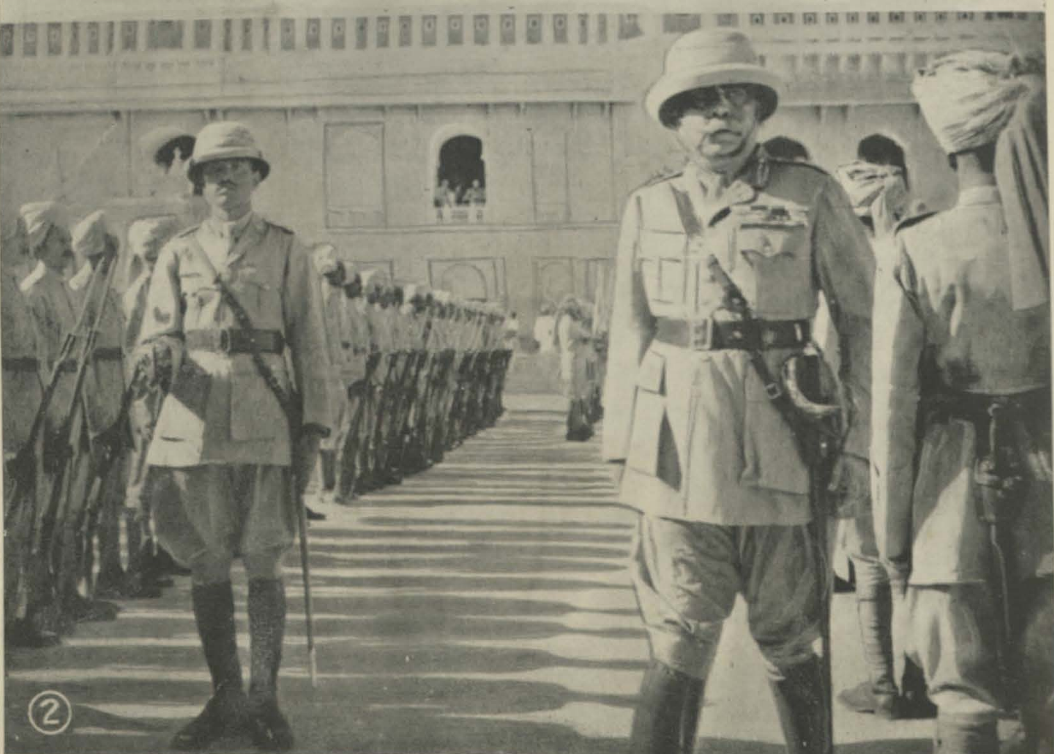
As already stated, our other Battalion left on 16th July, after a tour of nearly 10 months. All ranks were sorry to leave, and the Battalion's many friends regretted its departure, and hope that it will return, but we realise that the monotony of this job, coupled with the difficulty of carrying out regular training, makes a short tour essential. The Battalion now remaining, despite the escapes and the heavier duties consequent on these, and on the enlargement of the Central Internment Camp, is thoroughly enjoying its stay, and is very popular. A Ceremonial Guard Mounting Parade was held on the occasion of H. E. H. the Nizam's Birthday. This introduced the Battalion to the Station, and gave the local residents some slight idea of our daily duties. We have taken our part in the life of the Station, and have recently given a Military display in aid of local war gifts funds; this was so appreciated that it has been decided to give a combined display, by all units in the Station, and in this also we are taking a major part. When our time is up, we will depart, with regret, not for the barbed wire and all that it meant for us, but for the many friends we have made, and for the broader outlook which we have acquired. These, we trust, we will never lose.

IRISH STEW

A Collection of Photographs

BIKANER
Departure of State Troops





(1) H. H. addressing his Troops.
(2) The Farewell Inspection.

BHOPAL

Departure of State Troops



His Highness taking the salute



Officers of the Unit

KASHMIR

Departure of State Troops













GWALIOR
Departure of State Troops



A SECTION OF THE MOUNTAIN BATTERY PARADES BEFORE DEPARTURE



BATTERY HORSE ARTILLERY LOADING THEIR HORSES

GWALIOR
Departure of State Troops



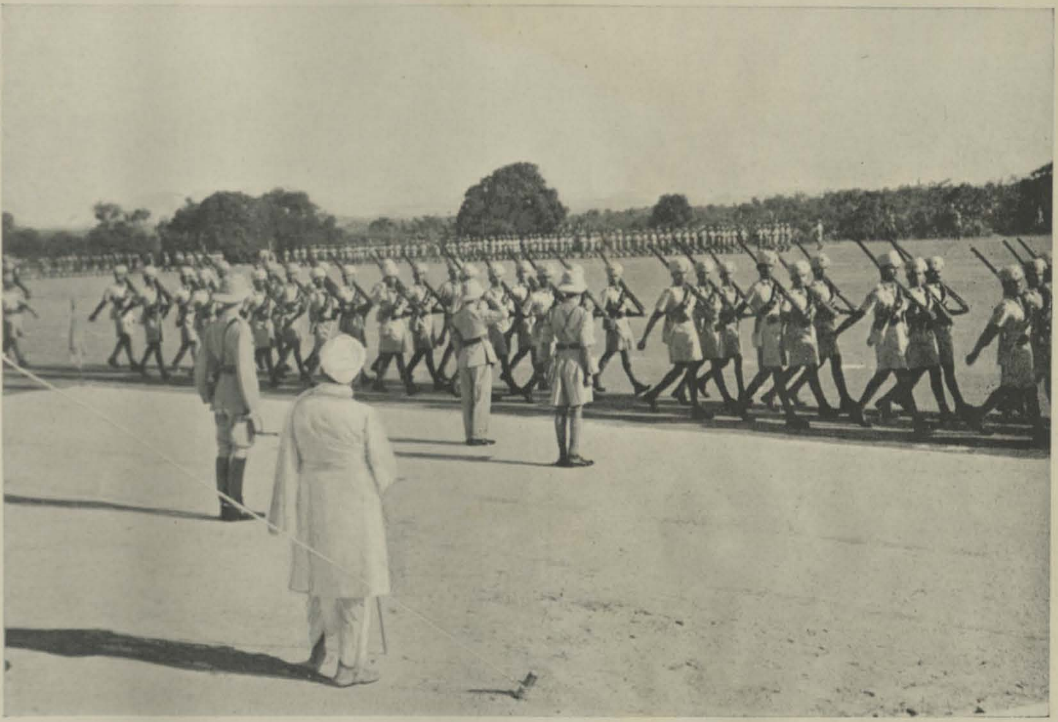
THE PONY COMPANY ENTRAINING



INFANTRY—LUGGAGE BEING LOADED ON THE TROOP SPECIAL

TRAVANCORE

Departure of State Troops

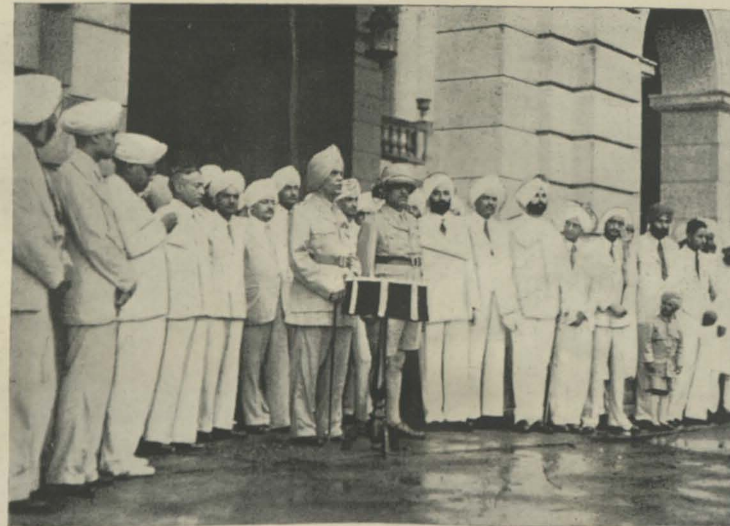


HIS HIGHNESS TAKING THE SALUTE AT A MARCH-PAST OF INFANTRY



DEPARTURE OF INFANTRY FROM THE STATE

KAPURTHALA
Departure of State Troops



H. H. ADDRESSING HIS TROOPS.



THE FAREWELL PARADE.



A SECTION GOING INTO ACTION

FARIDKOT SAPPERS AND MINERS ON FIELDWORKS TRAINING











LIGHT TANK AND MOTOR TRANSPORT IN ACTION DURING FIELD EXERCISES AT THE FIGHTING VEHICLES SCHOOL



ONE OF THE LIGHT TANKS USED IN THE TRAINING OF OFFICERS AND MEN



M. T. TRAINING WITH THE MYSORE STATE FORCES
Early instruction being given to men of the newly raised M.T. Company



An Instructor shows young cadets, under training at Mhow, how to "lead with the left"

NEWS LETTERS

By Military Advisers

SAPPERS AND MINERS CIRCLE

The Malerkotla and Faridkot Field Companies have already undergone considerable training under service conditions. Much experience has been gained in the construction of important concrete works, bridging and conditions of life in different districts. The vagaries of the climate have in no way hampered training.

The Companies from Sirmoor and Tehri-Garhwal, as well as an Independent Section from Mandi, are also playing their part. We should have more record of them in our next issue.

All the Sappers and Miner Units had a wonderful send-off from their Rulers and the people of the States. Enthusiasm has been remarkable.

There has been no lack of intake of recruits in any State. Arrangements for the provision of additional officers are well in hand, and at the moment eight State officers or cadets are undergoing training at the Engineer Officer Cadet Schools.

Bodyguard mounted units in Faridkot, Sirmoor and Suket States have had to be excluded from the I.S.F. Scheme as they were less than squadrons in strength, but these mounted units, together with the Faridkot Camel Militia, are still found actively at work on the training grounds, adding variety to the serious business of engineer training, and providing the co-operation of mounted units when required. His Highness of Faridkot's Bodyguard remains well in the public eye, and in the betting public's favour at the Faridkot Races!

The Suket State Forces have been reorganised as Sappers and Miners, and have started their fieldworks and trades training.

The year has been mostly occupied in bringing units up to the increased establishments, in preparing for service in British India, and in concentrating on fieldworks and trades training.

In the last two or three years the Sappers and Miners of the Indian Army have made great strides in mechanization, in improving trades training and generally in extending the scope of technical training to fit the conditions of modern war. They have set a fast pace for the States Forces Sappers and Miners, and it has been necessary to forget all we knew about "sticks and string," square traces, etc., and begin to think in terms of box-girder bridges, tubular scaffolding, victuallic piping, compressed-air tools and reinforced concrete.

The States Sappers have shown great interest in, and proved their capacity to take on, these new forms of technical training. Large numbers of good tradesmen, fitters, electricians, engine-drivers, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, bricklayers, painters, surveyors, draftsmen, etc., are being turned out for the State Sappers in their own workshops, in field companies outstation workshops, and in the Corps Headquarters Workshops of the King George V's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners and the Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners, whose Commandants and Instructional Staffs have given us every assistance. A certain number of men are also under training in States garages and in power stations, foundries and workshops in the States.

Major C. B. Boulden, R.E., handed over as Military Adviser in July and his cheerful personality is greatly missed. However, he is now able to visit and assist State Forces Sappers and Miners in Northern Command in his capacity as S. O. R. E. at that Command Headquarters.

We welcome Captain Amar Singh, I.D.S.M., late Indian Army, who has assumed charge as Depot Commander, Faridkot State Forces.

The Military Adviser-in-Chief toured the Hill States of the Circle in November and the Plains States in January.

The Deputy Engineer-in-Chief visited Tehri-Garhwal, Sirmoor and Mandi States during August and his visit has resulted in the arrival of some very welcome modern training equipment.

ARTILLERY CIRCLE

The main events of the year have been the departure of five Batteries and one Section from their States.

Rearmament has already been effected in certain cases.

Intensive training with new equipment, as well as annual artillery practice camps with live ammunition, have been carried out.

Training has been of a varied nature, including long route marches, anti-gas training, mountain warfare and embarkation practice. Many exercises with other arms have been held under the direction of regular Formation commanders.

Training Centres have been expanded.

Much as we should like to give the locations and activities of the individual units, the censor prevents us. We hope to record the full story at a later date.

CENTRAL INDIA CIRCLE

The year, as a whole, has seen a great deal of activity within the Circle. Many units have moved from States to British India, and several have rendered valuable work on railway protection duties under difficult weather conditions.

Generous offers of personnel for M.T. Sections have been made within the Circle, and States have also volunteered signalling personnel for service.

His Highness Maharaja Anand Rao Puar of Dhar received full powers on 16th March, 1940, and was installed by the Hon'ble Resident for Central India. His Highness has very kindly sent a Platoon of the Dhar Infantry (Maharaja Anand Rao's Own Laxmi Guards) to act as a demonstration platoon at the Officers' Training School.

Bhopal has been the scene of great war effort during the year, and His Highness has made many generous offers to the Government, including that of an M.T. Coy. and a Field Ambulance.

We are grateful for co-operation received from States during a very difficult year. Let us hope that brighter days are ahead. We send our best wishes to all units previously in the Circle, which are now serving in British India or elsewhere.

BENARES

His Highness Maharaja Bibhuti Narain Singh Bahadur of Benares spent a portion of the hot weather in Naini Tal this year, and has now gone to school in Ajmere. We wish him luck in his new sphere of life, and hope that he will make many friends amongst his new companions.

The Benares P. N. O. Infantry have had an active year under Captain Shiam Singh Thapa, and every effort has been made on progressive lines towards a general improvement. The unit spent several weeks in camp at Chakia during the year and co-operated there with a detachment of British Infantry.

Tactical exercises were run jointly and the unit learnt a great deal.

BHOPAL

"War Effort" seems to have been uppermost in the minds of those at Bhopal. His Highness has personally spared no pains to give war aid on a very generous scale. His example has been most inspiring.

The Bhopal Sultania Infantry have put in an intensive period of training in Bhopal and have now left for British India and elsewhere.

The Gohar-i-Taj Own Company has been expanded to a full Battalion, an M.T. Section has been raised, and, in addition, His Highness has given a Field Ambulance unit.

Our thanks are accorded to all those in Bhopal who have given so much help and who, to say the least of it, must have had a very energetic twelve months.

DATIA

A parade of the Govind Infantry was held at Datia on the morning of October 26th, in order to bid farewell to eight signallers who had volunteered for service in British India.

His Highness the Maharaja Datia took the salute. Captain Thakur Nahar Singh gave a speech which was answered on behalf of His Highness by Major Sardar Rai Bahadur Kahan Chand.

The signallers left Datia by train that evening for British India in the best of spirits.

The Dewan of Datia, Rai Bahadur Kahan Chand, has been granted the honorary rank of Major in the Govind Infantry.

His Highness has also offered an M.T. Section for Service.

Prayers were held in Datia State on June 13th for His Majesty the King-Emperor and the British Empire.

DHAR

As has been previously mentioned, His Highness Anand Rao Puar, Maharaja of Dhar, received full powers and was installed by the Hon'ble Resident for Central India on the 16th March, 1940.

His Highness very kindly asked many guests to be present at the ceremony.

After the ceremony, a truly magnificent spectacle, various functions, including a State banquet and sports, were held. All who were present thoroughly enjoyed a very pleasant and interesting time.

GWALIOR

Lieut.-Colonel G. V. B. Gillan, C.I.E., succeeded Lieut.-Colonel G. T. Fisher, C.I.E., as Resident at Gwalior and for the States of Rampur and Benares. The Gwalior Army have had a busy year in connection with the war.

The Railway Station now seems to be the chief rendezvous, and on many different occasions the Station has been crowded by those watching the departure of units for British India accompanied by their Special Service Officers.

Major-General Rao Raja G. R. Rajwade, on each occasion, gave a farewell address to units prior to their departure, and read out messages of "Godspeed" from His Highness the Maharaja Scindia. All units went off in great heart, and we wish them luck.

The War Effort in Gwalior has not been confined to departures only; the Gwalior Infantry have been on railway protection duty for a considerable period and have acquitted themselves well. The Forces remaining in Gwalior are now busy with training.

The sad death of His Highness Chhatrapati Maharaja of Kolhapur, shortly after his departure from Gwalior, affected us all, and may we take this opportunity to offer our sympathies to His Highness the Maharaja Scindia and all those concerned.

INDORE

His Highness the Maharaja of Indore arrived during the summer after a difficult journey from America.

There have been several changes in Indore during the year of which two are particularly notable.

Lieut.-Colonel G. T. Fisher became Hon'ble Resident for Central India in January *vice* Sir Kenneth Fitze, K.C.I.E. Colonel Fisher is now living at the Residency, Indore.

Lieut.-Colonel H. M. K. Gracey relieved Lieut.-Colonel T. M. Carpendale as Commander-in-Chief of the Indore Army in October.

We wish Major-General Gracey every success in his new appointment and hope that he will find it a congenial one.

An Officers' Training Course is now being held in Indore. Several rulers and many of their relations are undergoing hard training, and are taking a keen interest in their new profession. Further details of the course are not available, but it is understood that the Hon'ble Resident for Central India takes a very active interest in its welfare.

The Indore/Rewa Mule Coy. has moved to British India.

REWA

Training has been proceeding along normal lines in Rewa. Great interest is taken in Field Works by the Rewa Venkat Battalion, who have built their own bridging equipment.

The unit was in camp last January, and a lot of useful work was put in, including some well-run demonstrations.

TRIPURA

It is reported that considerable war effort is proceeding in Tripura State.

The Tripura B. B. M. Rifles are busy with Railway protection and are co-operating closely with local formations in British India.

SOUTHERN INDIA CIRCLE

The Military Advisory Staff held a Short Tactical Course at Bangalore for Squadron and Company Officers of Mysore and Travancore States Forces, and another Course in Hyderabad for State Officers and Indian Officers of the (N. O.) Golconda Lancers.

Many units of this Circle have moved into British India and elsewhere.

MYSORE

The Mysore State Forces have again been successful in Southern Command and Non-Central Army Rifle Association (India) Competitions. Four teams competed for the Harris Cup which was won for the fifth year in succession by the Mysore Lancers.

Teams were also entered for the O'Moore Creagh Cup, The Military Adviser's Cup and The Scindia Cup.

The Mysore Lancers did well in the Hunt Horse Show held at Bangalore during June, 1940, as the following awards show:

1. Polo Ponies (Government-owned) . . . . 1st and 2nd Prizes.
2. Polo Ponies likely to make . . . . 2nd and 3rd Prizes.
3. Team Jumping . . . . 2nd and 3rd Prizes.
4. Handy Hunters (Open) . . . . 1st and 2nd Prizes.
   (1st—Captain A. R. Bijili.)
   (2nd—Lt. T. B. Krishne Urs.)
5. Handy Hunters (Other Ranks) . . . . 2nd—2488 L./Dfr. Abdul Azeez.
6. Troop Horses . . . . 2nd—Jemadar S. G. Ganesha Rao.
7. Officers' Chargers . . . . 1st—Captain A. R. Bijili. 2nd—Lieut. R. V. Karve. 3rd—Lieut. T. B. Krishne Urs.
8. Indian Bred Horses . . . . 2nd—Jemadar G. Rudrappa.

Several teams competed in the Polo tournament and won the following tournaments:

(1) The Dushera Polo tournament, held at Bangalore in November, 1939.
(2) The Venkatagiri tournament, held at Bangalore in February, 1940.
(3) The Rajkumar Polo tournament, held in February, 1940.

TRAVANCORE

Since the Travancore Army was re-organised in 1935 under the Indian States Forces Scheme, there has been steady progress in administration and training. The year under report shows a definite advance. Based upon the report of Captain Parameswaran Pillai, who had been deputed to study and report on the administration of the Army in other Indian States, many reforms have been introduced, and military training has received a great impetus. Tactical training, camps and attachments to outside units have been carried out, and have assisted in raising the standard of efficiency of the State Forces.

Great enthusiasm was shown in the annual sports for which His Highness The Maharaja, the Colonel-in-Chief, has presented a Championship Shield to be competed for annually.

All the Infantry Units of the State Forces were first reorganised on the Interim War Establishment, and then later, on the Provisional Peace Establishment. This reorganisation entailed the expansion of one of the infantry half battalions into a full battalion, but it is proposed to retain this unit as a Garrison Unit and Training Company.

The formation of a (Travancore) G. P. Transport Company, R.I.A.S.C., is in progress.

A colourful event during the year was the presentation by His Highness the Maharaja of Regimental Colours to one of the infantry battalions. A Ceremonial Parade was held on the occasion, which made a very impressive scene.

A greater event was the departure of one battalion for service under the Crown. A Farewell Parade was held on October 26, on the eve of their departure, at which His Highness gave the following message to the troops:

"I have come here this morning," His Highness the Maharaja said, "to say a few words to you on the eve of your departure from the State for war purposes. This is a notable occasion in recent annals, though not the first of its kind in Travancore history. In the early days of the rise of the British Power in India, Travancore troops fought side by side with the British Army, and it is recorded that they were universally agreed to have acquitted themselves remarkably well. During the last Great War also Travancoreans went on service and returned home with success and credit. Now again you are going out as a regular organised unit, and I fully believe that you will not only realise that a great opportunity has come to you but also that a great responsibility rests on you.

I shall follow your movements with the closest interest and solicitude. We all pray for the speedy and successful termination of the war, and look forward to your return home with victory and honour.

With these words, I bid you Godspeed."

Another important event which took place in 1940 was the unveiling of His Highness The Maharaja's Statue by His Highness The Maharaja of Dholpur.

His Highness of Dholpur, who was invited to perform the unveiling ceremony, was received on arrival at the Main Guest House by a Guard of Honour from the State Forces.

His Highness The Maharaja and Her Highness Maharani Sethu Parvathi Bayi proceeded to Delhi in November, 1940.

HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Regular Forces Athletic Meeting was held in February, 1940, and other tournaments were also held during the year, but owing to two units being in outstations, the competitions were not so well contested as previously.

The mechanisation of the Indian Army has adversely affected Polo tournaments. Station polo, however, has been played.

Our entries fared well at the Secunderabad Horse Show. First Prizes were won in the following events:

Tent-pegging—(N. O.) Hyderabad I. S. Lancers.

Team Jumping—(N. O.) Golconda Lancers.

Officers' Chargers—Major Habib Ahmed, (N. O.) Golconda Lancers.

The (N. O.) Hyderabad Infantry, at their station in British India held an Evolution Parade in aid of the local Tank Cruiser Fund. A Moonlight Tattoo was also held in Hyderabad during April, 1940, in aid of war charities.

We congratulate our two Gentleman-Cadets at the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, this year.

G. C. Mirza Himayat Beg won the Birdwood Sword of Honour and G. C. K. R. Goorlawala the Gold Medal.

The war activities of the premier State in India need no mention. The munificence of H. E. H. and the varied ways in which the State has helped and is helping in the prosecution of the war are widely known.

RAJPUTANA CIRCLE

Since the publication of the last news letter, there have been many changes in the Rajputana Circle.

The Headquarters has moved, as a war measure, from Bharatpur to Jaipur. Thanks to the kindness of His Highness The Maharaja of Jaipur, it is now accommodated in a delightful house, Jhotwara Bagh, about three miles out of Jaipur.

This year we are fortunate to be able to record a fair-to-good monsoon in most districts but it will take more than one good year to make up for the ravages of the past three bad seasons.

Of unit moves there have been many.

Last year the only move was that of the Jodhpur Sardar Rissala, but since then we have said au revoir to many more units.

These units are now serving in different cantonments all over India and have been given varying rôles, and are undergoing intensive training to fit them for their respective rôles. Whatever fate has in store for them, one thing is certain; all wish to end up on active service.

Those who are left behind are busy training recruits. In fact, the raising of new battalions, and the training of reinforcements for the units which have left, keeps everyone busy.

One change in organization has been brought about by the war. The Camel Corps Circle has been abolished. Bikaner State now comes into the Rajputana Circle, while Bahawalpur joins the Punjab Circle.

In addition to their other commitments, many States have offered to raise M. T. Units for the Indian Army.

Their offers have been gratefully accepted.

Finally, in reply to an urgent request for extra Signal personnel, many volunteers left to join the Indian Army.

Minor activities of the past year include two Junior Officers' Courses, held at Jaipur and Udaipur respectively.

News from States has been meagre owing to their units being away.

Alwar State writes that, during March, 1940, His Excellency The Viceroy and Lady Linlithgow paid a short visit to Alwar. They were shown various new buildings and undertakings started in the State.

War activities include subscriptions to the State War Fund which totals over 2½ lakhs.

Bharatpur State have increased the Jaswant Household Infantry to a full Battalion and have offered one Rifle Company for service in whatever capacity it may be required.

Bikaner State Forces have been increased by two infantry battalions, while a Training Battalion has been formed to supply reinforcements for the two Units which have left the State.

Kotah and Dholpur have important Railway Protection duties and, for long periods, have had part of their troops out on R. P. duties.

The sad demise of Lieut.-Colonel His Highness Maharao Sir Umed Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., occurred on the 27th of December, 1940, at the age of 68 years. He took a great interest in the welfare of his State Forces. The Kotah State Forces will undoubtedly feel his loss most keenly.

The censor stops us from repeating much of what Jaipur State has written us. Suffice it to say that units from this State were among the first to leave.

His Highness himself has undergone training with an I. A. regiment. We hope his personal wishes will be fulfilled. Jodhpur State writes that the Jodhpur Sardar Rissala have been training hard but appear also to have found time to enter for various Polo tournaments, the Peshawar District point-to-point races, and three football tournaments, of which they won one and were runners-up in the other two.

Another unit has left the State.

In the Army Rifle Association (India) Non-Central rifle matches the Jodhpur Sardar Infantry won the Jodhpur Cup and stood second in the Military Adviser's Cup.

Mewar have expanded their Forces by turning the Mewer Bhupal Infantry into a full battalion. They left the State for training. Lieut.-Colonel C. O. B. Daunt has been appointed Commandant of the State Forces.

PUNJAB CIRCLE

In these days it is impossible to note the moves of units. Many, however, have left their States for the Frontier, overseas and for training in British India. Within the circle, our activities are largely centred on the organization of training units to maintain those which have left. Much still remains to be done in perfecting these arrangements, but in most States training units are up to strength and are beginning to function normally.

On the breaking up of the Camel Corps Circle, Bahawalpur States Forces were included in the Punjab Circle.

RAMPUR

It was a matter of extreme satisfaction not only to the State Forces, but to all subjects of the State, to receive the news that His Majesty the King-Emperor had been pleased to promote His Highness to Field Rank in the Army.

As a result of the war, many applications for cadetship have been received and an O. T. C. of one platoon was raised in August at the Raza Intermediate College.

A vigorous and successful recruiting drive was held in the *dehat* and in the urban areas the Salar of the Raza Guard (Civic Guard) co-operated whole-heartedly.

Unfortunately only a small start could be made in the big Military Building Scheme, owing to the high increase in the Army Budget, but a new Hospital Block has been completed and some improvements made.

KAPURTHALA

The Kapurthala season closed with a visit by their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Linlithgow. The Kapurthala Infantry provided two Guards of Honour, of 100 strong each, consisting of Sikhs and Mohammedans. On the conclusion of the visit all State and Indian Officers were presented to their Excellencies and Subedar-Major Abdul Rahman Khan received a gift of a silver-mounted cane.

His Excellency the Crown Representative was gracious enough to refer to the State Forces in the following terms:

> "The Empire is passing through a most critical phase of its long history, and the loyalty of the Princes of India was never more valuable or more appreciated. It is clear in this war, as in that of 1914—18, that Kapurthala is second to no state in its loyalty and devotion to the Crown, and that Your Highness' martial subjects, by rallying to the Empire's call, are once more proving themselves true to the glorious traditions of the past. Under the able guidance of your gallant son, Major Maharaj Kumar Amarjit Singh, the State Forces are being brought up to the required standard of efficiency, and are at any moment ready to answer any call that may be made upon them. In this connection I would like to congratulate Your Highness on your wise decision to accept the 1939 State Forces Scheme, the outstanding advantages of which you and your advisers evidently appreciated."

When his one unit left the State, His Highhness, accompanied by the Commandant, State Forces, Colonel Maharaj Kumar Amarjit Singh, came to Kapurthala to say "Good-bye" to them. His Highness addressed the men taking the salute as they left the Palace grounds.

The men quickly settled down to their new surroundings and training commenced within a few days. Before leaving for their present station the men had lots of practice in hill climbing and in mountain warfare.

During their short time in their new station the Battalion won the District Tug-of-War Cup.

JIND

It is understood that Jind Infantry won their Command Athletic Meeting within a month of their arrival in that Command. As they were only a half

Battalion and hardly acclimatized to the altitude of their station, this was a fine performance

ATHLETIC MEETING

Owing to war, the Circle Athletic Meeting was not held.

KASHMIR

During the year all the activities of the State Forces have been directed towards completing and improving their training and organization in the light of war experience. Additional units have been raised and some of the older units reorganised. Large numbers from all communities eligible for service in the State Forces have been enlisted and trained.

The inflow of recruits for the Artillery, Infantry and Cavalry has been most satisfactory although pre-war physical standards have been maintained strictly. The enthusiasm of all ranks has enabled the period of recruits' training to be intensified and reduced in length.

Sialkot Brigade were courteous enough to co-operate in the Collective Training of the State Troops in January last. During these exercises many valuable lessons were brought to the fore. All who took part were able better to visualise the greatly increased tempo of modern warfare.

Lieut.-Colonel Ali Akbar Khan, Officer Commanding a Battalion of the Jammu & Kashmir Infantry, has been awarded the Order of British India, 2nd Class.

KATHIAWAR-GUJARAT CIRCLE

Very welcome monsoon rains fell at an early date this year and did something to repair the ravages of the long continued drought which had beset the Western India States Agency, and which had caused, the previous year, the most serious famine of the century.

We were sorry to have to say "Good-bye" early in July, to Major R. George, who had been Military Adviser of the Circle since October, 1937. He returned to his Regiment for more active duty in foreign parts, so we heard, and we wish him good luck in his good fortune. His place was taken by Major L. T. Firbank.

There was no central camp this year, partly owing to States having to maintain detachments at various aerodromes and coastal O. P.s and partly because of the despatch of a number of signallers to the Indian Signal Corps. Another factor was the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Kathiawar in January. However, most units have been carrying out "hard-scale" marches which, all agree, is as good a form of toughening exercise as any.

Two courses, each of a fortnight's duration, were held in Rajkot in August and November, for Officers and N.C.O.s. The instructors, Major Jaswantsinh, Dhrangadhra State Forces, Major Ajitsinh, Bhavnagar State Lancers, Lieut. Musafkhan, Junagadh State Infantry, and Lieut. Chavan, Baroda Infantry, must have worked hard to prepare the numerous lectures and T. E. W. T.s which they conducted with such firmness and good humour, and we are grateful to them.

Early in December, the annual three-day Meeting under R.W.I.T.C. Rules was held and, concurrently, a Polo Tournament. The latter, which was for the DeWilton Cup, was limited to a total handicap of 4, and was played on the American System. Four teams entered, two from Jamnagar and two from Junagadh. It was a great pleasure to see the former again on the Kathiawar polo field, their participation being in no small measure due to the keen support of Lieut.-Colonel His Highness the Jam Saheb. It was disappointing, however, that the Bhavnagar teams were not also playing. Another year, we hope, they will enter the field again.

On the final day of the tournament the decision rested between the two "A" teams. A keenly contested struggle saw the score 4 all at the conclusion of the fourth *chukker*, and then, through the widened posts, Junagadh slipped in the winning goal. Of the "B" teams, Jamnagar proved the better side.

We were singularly fortunate in these matches to have as umpires (strict ones were needed!) Major Williams, M.C., the energetic Political Agent for Western Kathiawar States, who gained considerable experience in this department of the game when at Bhopal, and also Major Ajitsinh, the Commandant of the Bhavnagar Lancers. As referees, we had the Hon'ble Mr. E. C. Gibson, C.I.E., I.C.S., the Resident, and that experienced "old hand," Colonel B. Abdul Guffar, Bahadur, O.B.I., I.O.M., I.D.S.M., the Commandant of the Junagadh Lancers, once a stalwart of the Mysore Lancers, and still no mean performer. We welcomed again Colonel Zorawarsinhji, M.C., the distinguished one-time Commandant of the Bhavnagar Lancers, who rarely misses lending his support and encouragement to any form of equine activity in Kathiawar, even though he has to come from far afield.

At the conclusion of the races a successful one-day gymkhana race meeting was held, the profits of which were devoted to War Funds. This proved a popular event, and it is hoped that it may be repeated, with perhaps a race or two for the "bumpers" over hurdles or suitable fences. The old chase track can still be traced on this racecourse, but it is said that it is over 40 years since the last jump meeting was run here.

Of moves and changes in Kathiawar we have to record that of a platoon of the Dhrangadhra Makhwan Infantry to Dehra Dun in January. There they are to assist in demonstration duties at the Indian Military Academy, and we expect to hear good accounts of them.

During the same month, the enrolments were carried out of the Junagadh and Bhavnagar sections of the new G. P. Transport Company, R.I.A.S.C., being formed at Baroda. Good luck to them in their new work.

Considerable activity at Baroda has occurred during the year under review. Brigadier H. R. C. Lane, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., the late Commander of the Jubbulpore Brigade, assumed the direction of Military affairs in July, and much reorganization and new training has since taken place. In December a Battalion of Baroda Infantry left the station to take over the duties of guarding a Prisoners-of-War Camp.

Baria, as ever, are straining at the leash, under the enthusiastic guidance of Lieut.-Colonel Maharaj Naharsinhji, C.I.E., and that energetic and popular Gurkha officer, Captain Man Singh Thapa.

From other parts of Gujarat there is little to record and there have been few, if any, changes. All goes smoothly and units remain ready for whatever war conditions may demand.

Printed by E. G. Tilt, at the Civil and Military Gazette, Ltd., The Mall, Lahore. and Published and Edited by Lieut.-Colonel H. E. Cubitt-Smith at the Headquarters of the Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces, New Delhi.